



**Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)  
Joint Powers Authority Agenda**

**Friday, August 13, 2021, 8:30 a.m.**

**437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z, Mammoth Lakes**

**Members of the Board**

City of Bishop Councilmember Karen Schwartz - Chair,  
Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember John Wentworth - Vice Chair,  
Mono County Supervisor Stacy Corless, Mono County Supervisor Bob Gardner,  
Inyo County Supervisor Jeff Griffiths, Inyo County Supervisor Dan Totheroh,  
City of Bishop Councilmember Jim Ellis, Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember Lynda Salcido

NOTE: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Assistant Clerk at (760) 965-3615. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Town to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 13.102-35.104 ADA Title II)

NOTE: Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Town Offices located at 437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite 230 during normal business hours. Such documents are also available on the ESCOG website at [www.escog.ca.gov](http://www.escog.ca.gov) subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.

NOTE: This will be a Zoom meeting and will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order which suspends certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act. It is strongly encouraged that you watch this meeting on the Town of Mammoth Lakes' (TOML) website at [www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov) or on TOML's local government cable channel 18. Public comments may be submitted to the ESCOG Clerk at [clerk@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](mailto:clerk@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov) before and during the meeting or may be made via Zoom or in person.

**ZOOM INFORMATION**

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

Please click this URL to join. <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/92421427651>

Or join by phone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 **\*To raise your hand press \*9, To Unmute/Mute press \*6**

Webinar ID: 924 2142 7651

International numbers available: <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/92421427651>

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Notice to the Public: This time is set aside to receive public comment on matters not calendared on the agenda. When recognized by the Chair, please state your name and address for the record and please limit your comments to three minutes. Under California law the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board is prohibited from generally discussing or taking action on items not included in the agenda; however, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board may briefly respond to comments or questions from members of the public. Therefore, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board will listen to all public comment but will not generally discuss the matter or take action on it.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

**4.1. Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 11, 2021.**

**5. POLICY MATTERS**

**5.1. Receive a presentation from Mr. John Urdi, Executive Director - Mammoth Lakes Tourism and Ms. Ashely Helms, Deputy Director, Airports – Inyo County regarding the Bishop Regional Airport**

**5.2. Receive an update on the CalFire Wildfire Coordinator Grant**

**5.3. Consideration of A Resolution of the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Designating Authority to Negotiate and Execute an Agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to Receive Grant Funds in the Amount of \$3,384,239 for the Eastern Sierra Pace and Scale Accelerator.**

**5.4. Consideration to submit correspondence to the 2020 California Redistricting Commission regarding redistricting for Inyo County and Mono County**

**5.5. Discussion and direction on the Fall 2021 Regional Housing Strategy Roundtable**

**5.6. Consideration of the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreational Partnership Memorandum of Understanding**

**5.7. Receive an update on the Sustainable Recreation Tourism Initiative**

**5.8. Update on COVID-19**

**6. BOARD MEMBER/AGENCY REPORTS**

Informational reports from Member Agency representatives on committees, commissions, and organizations; general reports on Board Member activities

**7. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The ESCOG will adjourn to the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on October 8, 2021.



## **Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) - Joint Power Authority (JPA)**

### **Minutes of Regular Meeting**

**June 11, 2021, 8:30 a.m.**

**437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z, Mammoth Lakes**

Members Present: Vice Chair John Wentworth, Board Member Stacy Corless, Board Member Bob Gardner, Board Member Jeff Griffiths, Board Member Jim Ellis, Board Member Lynda Salcido

Members Absent: Chair Karen Schwartz, Board Member Dan Totheroh

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#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. in the Council Chamber, 437 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes. Members of the Board attended the meeting via videoconference.

#### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board Member Bob Gardner led the flag salute.

#### **3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Plumas Corporation Southern Sierra Project Manager Janet Hatfield reported that the Eastern Sierra Climate and Communities Resilience Project (the Mammoth Donut Project) had been selected for a Cal Fire Directed Funding Grant Award in the amount of approximately \$5M to be used towards implementation of the first twenty-one hundred acres within the project areas that already had National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) completed.

Quantified Ventures Associate Director Laura Drescher reported that she was working with Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access (MLTPA) and the Inyo National Forest (INF) and gave an update on the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA). Ms. Drescher announced that the redesign of INF campgrounds were included in the GAOA budget. She said that she was working with the Innovative Finance National Forest (IFNF) Grant Program in conjunction with the GAOA on campground improvements and said that they were considering pilot projects within the region.

There was discussion between Ms. Hatfield, Ms Drescher and members of the Board.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

Moved by Board Member Stacy Corless  
Seconded by Board Member Bob Gardner

Approve the Consent Agenda

For (6): Vice Chair John Wentworth, Board Member Stacy Corless, Board Member Bob Gardner, Board Member Jeff Griffiths, Board Member Jim Ellis, and Board Member Lynda Salcido

Absent (2): Chair Karen Schwartz, and Board Member Dan Totheroh

Carried (6 to 0)

**4.1 Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 9, 2021.**

**5. POLICY MATTERS**

**5.1 Receive a presentation from Derek Kirk, Regional Business Development Specialist, Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development.**

Administrative Services Contractor Elaine Kabala outlined the information in the staff report.

Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GoBiz) Regional Business Development Specialist Derek Kirk gave an update on changes made within his department and the desire to assist communities across the State. Mr. Kirk outlined the information in the handouts he had provided.

Plumas Corporation Southern Sierra Project Manager Janet Hatfield asked how GoBiz integrated with the Zero Business Council and Rural Counties Representatives of California (RCRC) and asked to speak with Mr. Kirk offline.

There was discussion between Mr. Kirk, Ms. Hatfield and members of the Board.

**5.2 Discussion and adoption of the ESCOG JPA Fiscal Year 2021/22 Budget.**

Administrative Services Contractor Elaine Kabala outlined the information in the staff report.

Moved by Board Member Bob Gardner

Seconded by Board Member Lynda Salcido

Adopt the ESCOG JPA Fiscal Year 2021/22 Budget.

For (6): Vice Chair John Wentworth, Board Member Stacy Corless, Board Member Bob Gardner, Board Member Jeff Griffiths, Board Member Jim Ellis, and Board Member Lynda Salcido

Absent (2): Chair Karen Schwartz, and Board Member Dan Totheroh

Carried (6 to 0)

**5.3 Discussion and direction on California Congressional Redistricting.**

Administrative Services Contractor Elaine Kabala outlined the information in the staff report and the California 2020 State Redistricting PowerPoint Presentation.

Councilmember Jim Ellis left the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

There was discussion between Ms. Kabala and members of the Board.

There was consensus from the Board to have one representative from each member agency meet with Ms. Kabala and Legal Counsel Grace Chuchla to develop written comments regarding the redistricting priorities of the ESCOG Board and for Ms. Kabala to present these comments to the Boards and Councils of each member agency. The following Board Members were appointed to assist this task: Inyo County Supervisor Jeff Griffiths, Mono County Supervisor Stacy Corless and Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember Lynda Salcido. A representative from the City of Bishop was to be determined at a later date.

**5.4 Discussion and direction on California Fire Safe Council County Wildfire Coordinators Grant.**

Administrative Services Contractor Elaine Kabala outlined the information in the staff report.

#### SPEAKING FROM THE FLOOR:

Inyo-Mono Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP) Program Director Holly Alpert said that she was working with the Regional Forests and Fire Capacity (RFFC) Program and spoke in support of both Inyo and Mono Counties applying for the California Fire Safety Council County Wildfire Coordinators Grant independently and for the ESCOG to house the positions. Ms. Alpert reported that the current funding for the positions was for 18 months and said that the RFFC Program was at the ready to be a partner with the ESCOG in relation to the Wildfire Coordinator positions. She said that it was possible that additional RFFC program funds would come from the State in the future through the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC).

There was discussion between Ms. Kabala, Ms. Alpert and members of the Board.

Staff was given direction to submit letters of support for both Inyo County and Mono County's applications for the California Fire Safe Council County Wildfire Coordinators Grant.

#### **5.5 Discussion on potential regional housing funding opportunities as proposed in the draft California Budget for 2021- 2022.**

Administrative Services Contractor Elaine Kabala outlined the information in the staff report.

#### SPEAKING FROM THE FLOOR:

Mammoth Lakes Housing, Inc. (MLH) Executive Director Patricia Robertson announced that MLH was going through a 20th Anniversary rebranding which would include representation of the entire region they served. Ms. Robertson reported that MLH still had only two full-time employees, as in the past ten years, and said that last year they had seen an increase of over 50% in their homeowner ownership programs in addition to operating the emergency rent relief program which had created a deficit in MLH's staff capacity. She reported that she would like to see their staff capacity grow and would like to utilize funding described in the GoBiz presentation to do so. Ms. Robertson said that she would like to expand MLH's contracts with the jurisdictions they currently served to include Mammoth Lakes, Bishop and Inyo, Mono and Alpine Counties, and to bring on additional staff.

She said that she agreed with a comment made earlier in the meeting by Board Member Jeff Griffiths stating that it would be a good idea to form a regional housing summit. She gave an update on the 238 Sierra Manor Road eleven unit project in Mammoth that MLH was working on and reported that there was a funding gap of approximately \$1M. She said MLH would release an aggressive campaign to raise those funds.

Vice Chair John Wentworth said that he would work with Ms. Kabala and Mr. Griffiths regarding developing a housing summit and would bring information back to the Board at the August meeting

There was discussion between Ms. Kabala, Ms. Robertson and members of the Board.

**5.6 Receive an update on the Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative / Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership.**

Administrative Services Contractor Elaine Kabala outlined the information in the staff report.

Vice Chair John Wentworth reported that the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the ESCOG and the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP) was in process and said that he hoped to bring an outline of the redrafted MOU to the August meeting.

There was discussion between Ms. Kabala and members of the Board.

**6. BOARD MEMBER/AGENCY REPORTS**

Board Member Jeff Griffiths announced that Inyo County was in the process of moving into the new Inyo County Consolidated Office Building and said that several community events had started back up including Mule Days, Concert in the Rocks, the Rodeo, and Community Arts Days with live music. He said Inyo County had entered a contract for a Sprung Structure for Bishop Airport's temporary terminal. He discussed redistricting within the County and said the Inyo County Board of Supervisors Redistricting Commission was waiting to see the numbers before making any changes. He reported that Inyo County had agreed upon a three year contract with its Employee Association, said the County had signed up with RCRC to facilitate the Broadband Planning Grant, and reported that they were continuing work on a small business development center in Bishop which would be a regional center for Mono and Inyo Counties.

Mr. Griffiths said that the County had been awarded a Proposition 64 Grant for approximately \$600k which would be used for at-risk youth programming and discussed plans to expand a mentoring program. He reported that there had been a rash of large illegal marijuana growing operations in the County. Mr. Griffiths said that South Lake Road had been redone last year and reported that part of the road had started to fall away after the snow melted this year and warned the other members of the Board that once a road had been built utilizing a Federal Highway Association (FHWA) Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Grant, there was no warranty.

City of Bishop City Administrator Ron Phillips reported that the last few days of the High School Rodeo State Finals were in process and that there were a lot of people in town for the event. Mr. Phillips said the event was going well and that it was good to see people out having a good time again.

Board Member Stacy Corless reported that she had been appointed to serve on the Executive Committee of the State's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force this year as the RCRC representative and said that she had attended a relaunch meeting on May 20th. Ms. Corless reported that the Task Force was working on early action funding and spoke about this year's dangerous wildfire outlook. She encouraged the members of the Board to participate in the Task Force meetings. She reported that Mono County should approve their Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget on Tuesday.

Board Member Bob Gardner reported that infrastructure was being deployed with CalTrans for dispersed camping and said that the Camp Like A Pro campaign had been rolled out. Mr. Gardner thanked Board Member Jeff Griffiths for Inyo County's contribution to the outreach program. He said that Grant Lake in June Lake had a rough Memorial Day Weekend with ten illegal fires Sunday night, and reported that there was small lightning fire in the Walker area and a fire at the Lee Vining Motel recently. He said that the Mono County Board of Supervisors was struggling with the transition back to in-person meetings and hoped that the four member agencies could get on the same page with the transition so it would be consistent across the region.

Board Member Lynda Salcido reported that the Town Council would approve the TOML final budget on the 16th, which would include creation of the Town's new Office of Outdoor Recreation. She said she attended a meeting this morning regarding COVID restrictions and the confusion between the State and Cal OSHA and how to help businesses navigate through the requirements.

She reported that The Parcel was moving ahead with permitting to allow the beginning of tree removal and some of the infrastructure, said that the Town Council had finalized the Strategies and Priorities Statement, and said that Town staff did a good job presenting the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to the Town Council at the last meeting. Ms. Salcido reported that the Town Council had approved the extension of outdoor dining and that the 4th of July Parade, fireworks and Concert in the Park were all on this year.

TOML Town Manager Dan Holler announced that most events and programs were up and running again with modifications including the Mammoth Motocross event next weekend. Mr. Holler discussed changes in State COVID regulations, items of interest in the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget including housing, recreation, roadwork, design work on Multi-Use Paths (MUPs), continued Trails work, a large paving project at the airport and moving forward with the Mammoth Lakes Foundation (MLF) Mammoth Arts and Cultural Center (MACC). He spoke about the Town's partnership with the Forest Service for restroom cleaning and trash removal in the Lakes Basin and a few other areas. He said that staff was looking at options for an outdoor events venue, and discussed a partnership with Mono County for a regional upgrade to the radio communications systems and dispatch services. Mr. Holler said that he was looking forward to a very busy summer with expanded Trail Host and Community Host programs and increased enforcement activity.

Vice Chair John Wentworth said the TOML Town Council had received a presentation from Town staff regarding regional air service and that he looked forward to seeing where air service was headed moving forward.

Board Member Stacy Corless left the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

There was discussion among members of the Board.

## **7. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Vice Chair John Wentworth requested that the following items be added to the August agenda; Air Service update, State Budget opportunities such as the Regional Early Access Plan (REAP) Grant funding and capacity, update on the Sustainable Recreation Tourism Initiative (SRTI) process, update on a Regional Housing Summit, and State Redistricting opportunities.

Board Member Bob Gardner requested that an item providing an update on the California Fire Safe Council Wildfire Coordinator positions be added to the August agenda.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m. to the next regular meeting schedule to be held on August 13, 2021.

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Angela Plaisted, Assistant Clerk

DRAFT



# EASTERN SIERRA AIR SERVICE UPDATE

**Eastern Sierra Council of Governments**

John Urdi, Executive Director Mammoth Lakes Tourism

August 13, 2021

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# MAMMOTH YOSEMITE AIRPORT



## **Advanced Airlines** (Scheduled Charter)

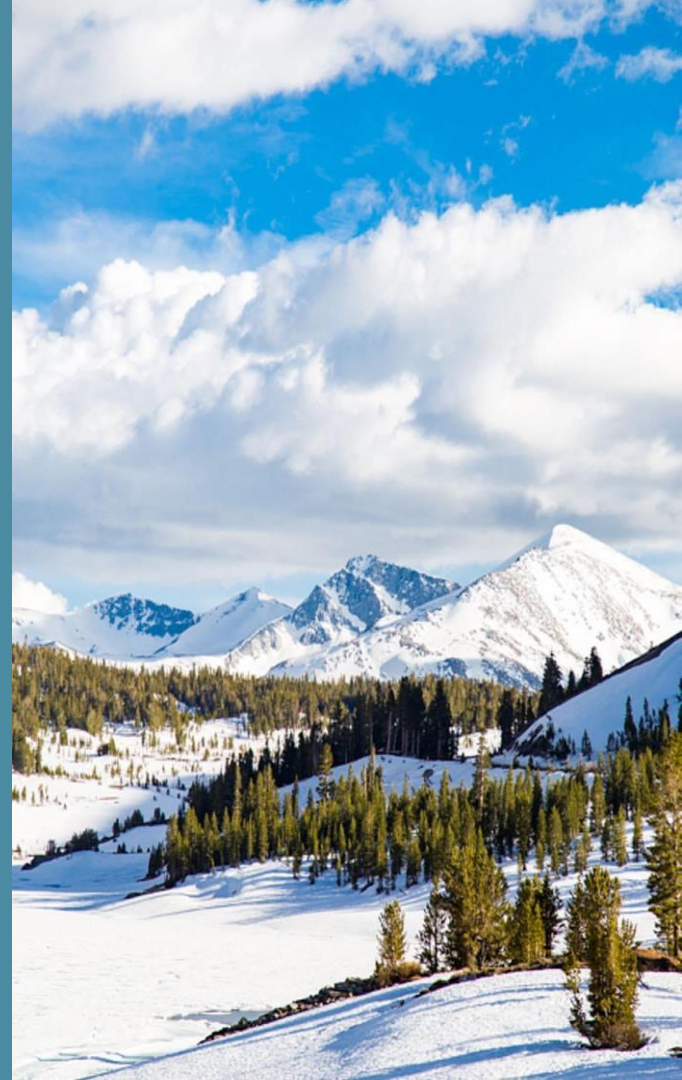
- 30 passenger Dornier 318 & 9 Passenger King Air
- Burbank (BUR) - Carlsbad (CLD) - Hawthorne (HHR)
- Service 4-6 days per week
- November 24<sup>th</sup> through April 4<sup>th</sup>
- No TSA
- Can divert to Bishop if needed
- 20% Local's discount codes for off-direction travel

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# ADVANCED AIRLINES SCHEDULE

**Schedule A**

7:30:00 AM	HHR	MMH	8:24:00 AM
9:10:00 AM	MMH	BUR	10:00:00 AM
10:50:00 AM	BUR	MMH	11:50:00 AM
12:35:00 PM	MMH	CLD	1:41:00 PM
2:25:00 PM	CLD	MMH	3:31:00 PM
4:15:00 PM	MMH	HHR	5:15:00 PM





# EASTERN SIERRA REGIONAL AIRPORT

## **United Airlines** (commercial)

- Opportunity to expand markets and aircraft type in coming years
- Targeting long haul destination visitors
- Northeast (Boston, New York)
- 70 passenger CRJ 700 (possibly the 75 passenger Embraer 175 in the future)
- (DEN) Denver - (SFO) San Francisco (SFO) - Los Angeles (LAX)
- Tremendous connectivity (domestic & Intl)
- Daily service
- December 16 through the end of March
- Anticipated major reliability improvement

# UNITED AIRLINES SCHEDULE

## San Francisco

- Departs SFO 8:57am - arrives BIH 10:19am
- Departs BIH 10:55am - arrives SFO 12:20pm

## Denver

- Departs DEN 11:15am - arrives BIH 12:40pm
- Departs BIH 1:16pm - arrives DEN 4:31pm

## Los Angeles

- Departs LAX 2:30pm - arrives BIH 3:48pm
- Departs BIH 4:36pm - arrives LAX 6:00pm





# TRANSPORTATION - CAR RENTALS

## **Enterprise and National**

- Established offices in Bishop and MMH
- Long time partner
- Focus on 4WD and AWD vehicles
- Exploring In-town Mammoth Lakes location
- Possible one-way rental options



# TRANSPORTATION - SHUTTLES

- Experienced and service focused
- 14 passenger Vans
- Door-to-door service
- Encourage pre-booking
- ESTA Dial-a-ride for Bishop
- Other reserved private car services
- Uber? Taxis?



# MINIMUM REVENUE GUARANTEES

Minimum Revenue Guarantee: With MRG, the airline is guaranteed it will generate a specified amount of revenue from ticket sales associated with the service. If the airline does not meet the target revenue, the local entity providing the guarantee makes a payment to the airline for the shortfall.

Without MRG's neither MMH or BIH would have service

Goal is to minimize MRG by success of air service then reallocate funds to new markets



# MINIMUM REVENUE GUARANTEES

## Scheduled Charter Service (MMH)

- MLT = \$275,000 (Measure A \$)
- TOML = up to \$175,000 if needed
- Maximum MRG = \$450,000

## Commercial Service (BIH)

- MLT = \$1,510,000 (TBID \$)
- Inyo County = TBD\$
- Mammoth Mountain = TBD\$

\*TBID can only fund the portion of passengers arriving specifically to come to Mammoth Lakes - intercept surveys will be done to learn more about arriving pax.





# QUESTIONS?



Runway 07, Bishop Ca.

# BISHOP AIRPORT UPDATE

Eastern Sierra Council of Governments

August 13, 2021

# 2020 Airfield Capital Improvement Projects

- Taxiway Rehabilitation Project - \$5.13M (90% Federal, 3% State)
- Runway 12-30 Rehabilitation Project - \$7.35M (100% Federal)

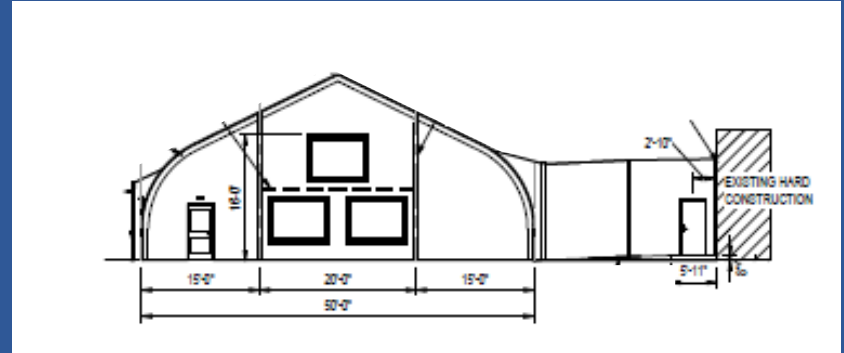


# Sprung Structure

- To temporarily house TSA screening and passenger seating area
- Long term use for general aviation activities
- Separate commercial service terminal planned for 2026
- Connected to south side of existing terminal via 22 foot corridor
- Renovation of vacated ESTA office space
- Construction September - November



\*Similar structure – 50 foot flat end



# Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting

- 100% FAA grant for vehicle purchase
- Vehicle to be delivered 8/18/21
- Two staff members have completed FAA approved ARFF training course. Two more will attend in September
- Vehicle vendor provides week long vehicle-specific onsite training



# Environmental Review for Proposed Air Service

- NEPA Environmental Assessment and CEQA Initial Study
  - Public review period March 4, 2021 – April 12, 2021
  - Five comments received
- Inyo Planning Commission approved the CEQA Negative Declaration on July 28, 2021
- FAA set to file a Record of Decision in mid August, including:
  - Determination on the Environmental Assessment
  - Approval of a Class 1 Operating Certificate (Part 139) for the Bishop Airport
  - Approval of an amendment to SkyWest Airline's Operating Specification

# Other Coordination

- FAA
  - Monthly coordination meetings since Oct 2019 (Inyo, TOML, MLT, FAA and Caltrans)
  - Final airfield inspection on August 12-13
- TSA
  - Approved request for federal screening equipment on June 1, 2021
  - Site visit by Federal Security Director and other staff on August 3
  - Biweekly coordination meetings
- United
  - Began ticket sales to Bishop on June 19 for December 16 – March 26 (with disclaimer: Subject to final government approval)

# QUESTIONS?



2003 Gulfstream G-IV, Bishop Airport, 10/27/2011



## STAFF REPORT

**To:** ESCOG Joint Powers Authority  
**From:** Elaine Kabala, ESCOG Staff  
**Subject:** County Wildfire Coordinators Grant  
**Meeting date:** August 13, 2021  
**Prepared on:** August 3, 2021  
**Attachments:** A) Approved Letter of Support

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### **BACKGROUND/HISTORY:**

At previous ESCOG meetings, your Board held a discussion regarding the California Fire Safe Council County Wildfire Coordinators Grant and determined that Inyo and Mono Counties would each submit a separate application. Inyo County and Mono County have both confirmed their intent to submit individual applications. Your Board directed staff to submit a letter of support on behalf of the ESCOG in support of each application.

### **ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION:**

The objective of the County Coordinators Grant is to educate, encourage, and develop county-wide collaboration and coordination among various wildfire mitigation groups operating within counties containing State Responsibility Area (SRA) lands. Up to 24 counties will receive a one-time grant of \$175,000 to be used to cover administrative costs relevant to county-wide coordination efforts, including but not limited to the salary, support, and administrative costs for a designated County Coordinator for 18 months.

The County Coordinator Grant Program is part of a larger effort by the California Fire Safe Council and our partners to develop local and regional capacity and coordination to encourage collaboration between all fire mitigation and emergency preparedness groups, as well as government agencies and stakeholders. Each County Coordinator will serve as a conduit of information and resources and provide active coordination and outreach efforts within their county.

**Eligibility:**

Priority will be given to counties with a high percentage of Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones and a higher proportion of disadvantaged and/or low-income communities. To apply, counties must be the starting point and invested in the scope and goals of the project. However, counties may choose to direct the application process and funds to the non-profit or public agency that they feel are best equipped to execute the project. Local fire mitigation groups are not eligible to apply unless their county designates them as the primary applicant and provides a letter of support. Only one application per county will be accepted.

**APPLICATION SCHEDULE:**

June 1, 2021	Call for interested applicants
June 23, 2021	Online grant workshop
August 2, 2021	Accepting applications
September 15, 2021	Applications due by 11:59PM PST
October 2021	Award announcement

**BUDGET IMPACTS:**

There are no budget impacts associated with this item.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

ESCOG Counsel Grace Chuchla has reviewed this item and found that it complies with the law. The ESCOG may send a letter of support on behalf of Inyo County and Mono County pursuant to the powers that it was given by the member agencies via their approval of the Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Board receive an update on the County Wildfire Coordinators Grant.



**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
Joint Powers Authority**

June 11, 2021

Hedi Jalon, Executive Director  
California Fire Safe Council  
5834 Price Avenue, Suite 101  
McClellan, CA 95652

**RE: County Wildfire Coordinators Grant**

Dear Ms Jalon:

The Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) extends strong support for [Inyo/Mono] County's application for a County Wildfire Coordinator through the California Fire Safe Council County Wildfire Coordinators Grant.

The Eastern Sierra region is comprised of Inyo and Mono Counties, and is characterized by sweeping, mountainous landscapes. The region totals approximately 13,360 square miles, and over 90% of land is owned and managed by federal, state, or other jurisdictions. Most communities are served by volunteer firefighter organizations. Wildfire risk has become a much greater concern the Eastern Sierra region due to the long-overdue need to manage the forests and wildlands surrounding Eastern Sierra communities and impacts of critical drought conditions. In November 2020, the Mountain View Fire devastated the community of Walker, destroying 80 structures and taking the life of one resident. In February 2018, the Pleasant Fire burned over 2,000 acres, and was miraculously contained before reaching the community of Bishop. In February 2015, the Round Fire swept through the community of Swall Meadows destroying 40 homes. The Eastern Sierra region has realized increases in the frequency of wildfires, the duration of wildfire seasons, and the impacts of wildfires on our communities, environment, and economy.

The County Wildfire Coordinator position would provide essential capacity for coordinating local wildfire mitigation planning and implementation. This opportunity will improve our communities' wildfire preparedness and resiliency, and assist with building

capacity for wildfire mitigation in the future. The County Wildfire Coordinator Grant will provide essential and necessary services for inter-jurisdictional organization for wildfire preparation in our rural region.

The ESCOG fully supports [Inyo/Mono] County's application for the County Wildfire Coordinators Grant. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions on our support of this item or would like to discuss further. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Karen Schwartz  
Chair, Eastern Sierra Council of Governments



## **Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) Joint Powers Authority Agenda**

### **STAFF REPORT**

**To:** ESCOG Joint Powers Authority

**From:** Elaine Kabala, ESCOG Staff

**Subject:** Eastern Sierra Pace and Scale Accelerator - Proposition 1 Grant Agreement with California Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Meeting date:** August 13, 2021

**Prepared on:** August 3, 2021

**Attachments:** A) Resolution of the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Designating Authority to Negotiate and Execute an Agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to Receive Grant Funds in the Amount of \$3,384,239 for the Eastern Sierra Pace and Scale Accelerator  
B) DRAFT Proposition 1 Watershed Restoration Grant Program Eastern Sierra Pace & Scale Accelerator Grant Agreement

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### **BACKGROUND/HISTORY:**

At the meeting held February 12, 2021, the ESCOG Board approved a Resolution authorizing and approving a grant application for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Proposition 1 Restoration Grant for the Eastern Sierra Pace and Scale Accelerator project under authority of the Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Accelerator (SREMP). The Eastern Sierra Pace and Scale Program aims to increase local capacity for environmental planning in the Eastern Sierra by investing in dedicated professionals to build a locally based workforce in the area of environmental planning. The pilot project for development local environmental planning capacity to be funded by the grant is the Eastern Sierra Climate & Communities Resilience Project (ESCCRP), which is a landscape level restoration and fuels treatment project in the Mammoth Lakes area.

Staff received notification the grant was awarded on June 15, 2021 for \$3,384,269. Subsequent to the award notice, staff received a draft agreement which defines the scope of work, agreement terms, and payment details consistent with the project proposal. Staff has been collaborating with Janet Hatfield of Plumas Corporation, who prepared the application, and ESCOG Counsel to ensure the draft agreement reflects the administrative, environmental planning and project implementation tasks and compensation proposed in the grant proposal. The Draft Proposition 1 Watershed Restoration Grant Program Eastern Sierra Pace & Scale

Accelerator Grant Agreement (Attachment B) represents the most recent version of the agreement, which is currently being finalized by CDFW.

In order to execute the agreement, CDFW will require a resolution from your Board delegating authority to negotiate and execute the agreement to the ESCOG Executive Director. Today, your Board is being presented with a draft version of the agreement. It is anticipated that the finalized agreement will not undergo substantial changes with respect to ESCOG's responsibilities under the agreement. Therefore, the Executive Director feels that it is appropriate to have your Board approve the current draft agreement and delegate the authority to the Executive Director to finalize the agreement and approve and sign the finalized version.

### **ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION:**

As described above, the grant provides \$3,384,269 to the ESCOG for implementation of the Eastern Sierra Pace and Scale Accelerator. The term of the agreement is from September 1, 2021, or upon Grantor approval, whichever is later, through March 15, 2025 (Agreement Term). The Scope of Work broadly includes:

1. Project Management and Administration
2. Development of an Interdisciplinary Team (IDT)
3. Environmental Planning work including:
  - a. Obtaining permits
  - b. Botanical Assessments
  - c. Archaeological Assessments
  - d. Silvicultural Assessments
  - e. Wildlife Habitat Assessment
  - f. Recreation Assessment
  - g. NEPA Scoping
4. Preparing the ESCRRP for Implementation
5. Preparing for CEQA analysis
6. Development of a Monitoring Plan
7. Education and Outreach
8. Local Workforce Development
9. Finance and Marketing Plan

The original project scope also included biomass planning; however separate funding was obtained for biomass planning tasks through a CalFire grant, and those tasks and associated budget have been removed from the scope of work in this agreement.

Once the agreement is executed, ESCOG staff anticipates preparing Requests for Qualifications for subconsultants to provide services for project management (separate from grant administration), environmental planning services, and implementation preparation teams.

### **BUDGET IMPACTS:**

The grant award is for \$3,384,269. The allocated budget for ESCOG staff to administer the grant is \$123,790, plus \$5,000 in indirect cost recovery for each subcontractor, for a total of \$15,000.

### **LEGAL REVIEW:**

ESCOG Counsel Grace Chuchla has reviewed this item and found that it complies with the law. The ESCOG may send a letter of support on behalf of Inyo County and Mono County pursuant to the powers that it was given by the member agencies via their approval of the Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Board adopt A Resolution of the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Designating Authority to Negotiate and Execute an Agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to Receive Grant Funds in the Amount of \$3,384,239 for the Eastern Sierra Pace and Scale Accelerator.

**Resolution No. 2021- \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF  
GOVERNMENTS DESIGNATING AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE AND  
EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
FISH AND WILDLIFE TO RECEIVE GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF  
\$3,384,239 FOR THE EASTERN SIERRA PACE AND SCALE  
ACCELERATOR**

**WHEREAS**, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) developed the Watershed Restoration Grant Program(s) in response to the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1). Proposition 1 amended the California Water Code (CWC) to add Section 79737, authorizing the Legislature to appropriate funds to CDFW to fund multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed restoration and protection projects; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 1501.5(b), CDFW is authorized to enter into this grant agreement and to make an award to Eastern Sierra Council of Governments; and

**WHEREAS**, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments intends to enter into an agreement with CDFW in the amount of \$3,384,269 for implementation of the “Eastern Sierra Pace and Scale Accelerator.”

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments does hereby:

1. Certify that the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments will comply with all federal, state and local environmental, public health, and other appropriate laws and regulations applicable to the project and will obtain or will ensure that the all project partners and subcontractors obtain all appropriate permits applicable to the project.
2. Approve the current draft grant agreement and commit to the terms and conditions specified in the current draft grant agreement.
3. Appoint the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Executive Director and authorize the same to conduct negotiations, execute, submit and sign documents including but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payments requests, and other documents which may be necessary for the completion of the proposed project.
4. Delegate authority to the Executive Director to approve and execute the finalized agreement with CDFW.

Attachment A

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 13th day of August, 2021 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_

Karen Schwartz

Chair



State of California - Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
P.O. Box 944209  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

Attachment B

*GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor*  
*CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director*



**PROPOSITION 1 WATERSHED RESTORATION GRANT PROGRAM  
EASTERN SIERRA PACE & SCALE ACCELERATOR  
GRANT AGREEMENT NUMBER – QXX96XXX**

**GRANTOR:** State of California, acting by and through the  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
P.O. Box 944209  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

**GRANTEE:** Eastern Sierra Council of Governments  
377 West Line Street  
Bishop, CA 93514

**SECTION 1 – LEGAL BASIS OF AWARD**

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW or Grantor) developed the Watershed Restoration Grant Program(s) in response to the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1). Proposition 1 amended the California Water Code (CWC) to add Section 79737, authorizing the Legislature to appropriate funds to CDFW to fund multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed restoration and protection projects.

Pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 1501.5(b), Grantor is authorized to enter into this grant agreement (Agreement) and to make an award to Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (Grantee) for the purposes set forth herein. Grantee accepts the grant on the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Accordingly, Grantor and Grantee (Parties) hereby agree as follows:

**SECTION 2 – GRANT AWARD**

**2.01 Grant:** In accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Grantor shall provide Grantee with a maximum of \$3,384,269 (Grant Funds) to financially support and assist Grantee's implementation of Eastern Sierra Pace & Scale Accelerator (Project).

**2.02 Term:** The term of this Agreement is September 1, 2021, or upon Grantor approval, whichever is later, through March 15, 2025 (Agreement Term).

**SECTION 3 – ELIGIBLE USES OF GRANT**

Only Grantee expenditures that are necessary to implement the Project, comply with applicable federal and State of California law, and made in accordance with this Agreement are eligible for reimbursement from the Grant Funds.

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**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

**SECTION 4 – GRANTEE’S REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES**

Grantee represents and warrants to Grantor as follows:

- 4.01 Existence and Power:** Grantee is a public entity, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of California. Grantee has full power and authority to transact the business in which it is engaged and full power, authority, and legal right to execute and deliver this Agreement and incur and perform its obligations hereunder.
- 4.02 Binding Obligation:** This Agreement has been duly authorized, executed, and delivered on behalf of Grantee and constitutes the legal, valid, and binding obligation of Grantee, enforceable in accordance with the Agreement’s terms.

**SECTION 5 – GENERAL TERMS**

- 5.01 Purpose:** This Agreement is entered into by the Parties for the purpose of providing financial support to Grantee to complete the Project, specifically the activities identified within Section 6 - Project Statement.
- 5.02 Project:** Grantee shall complete the Project as set forth in Section 6 - Project Statement.
- 5.03 General Grant Provisions:** Public Entities General Grant Provisions (Exhibit 1.a), [OR] Non-Public Entities General Grant Provisions (Exhibit 1.b) is attached hereto and made a part of this Agreement.
- 5.04 Amendments; Budget Revisions:** Grantee shall submit any request to amend any term of this Agreement in writing to the CDFW Grant Manager. Grantee must include an explanation of and justification for any such request. This Agreement may only be amended in accordance with Section 2 of Exhibit 1.a, except that the CDFW Grant Manager may approve via email proposed revisions to the Budget (as defined in Section 9.01) to shift budgeted funds between existing line items or categories when those proposed revisions meet all of the following requirements:
- Are consistent with the purpose, objectives, and description of the Project as detailed in Section 6 - Project Statement;
  - Do not increase the total amount of Grant Funds;
  - Do not, in the aggregate, transfer more than 10% of the Grant Funds excluding Budget revisions previously approved by the CDFW Grant Manager;
  - Are not retroactive in effect.
- 5.05 Acknowledgement of Credit:** Grantee shall include signage, to the extent practicable, informing the public that the Project received funds through the California Department of Fish and Wildlife from the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1, CWC § 79707) Further, Grantee shall include appropriate acknowledgement of credit to the Watershed

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**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

Restoration Grant Program and its implementing agency, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, for Grantor's financial support when using any data and/or information developed under this Agreement (e.g., in posters, reports, publications, presentations).

**SECTION 6 – PROJECT STATEMENT**

**6.01 Introduction:** The purpose of the Eastern Sierra Pace & Scale Accelerator is to conduct environmental analyses for the Eastern Sierra Climate & Communities Resilience Project (ESCCRP), a landscape-scale forest restoration project. Existing conventional approaches to environmental review are not working in this region. The United States Forest Service (USFS) does not anticipate having adequate personnel to complete environmental review for the ESCCRP. In order to keep pace with current and growing needs forest wide, this project was developed. Furthermore, contracting with large out-of-area environmental consulting firms is prohibitively expensive, puts additional burdens on the agency, often yields sub-par NEPA documents, and further slows the pace of projects due to exhaustive fundraising required. The Eastern Sierra Pace & Scale Accelerator will work to overcome these obstacles by working to build the local capacity to accomplish the work. This project will create an Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) that will conduct third party NEPA for the ESCCRP. The ESCCRP and the IDT are key components that address both forest restoration pace and scale needs of the eastern Sierra.

**6.02 Objectives:** Specific objectives of this Project are to:

- Streamline environmental planning to ensure more efficient and effective vegetation management implementation in the Eastern Sierra
- Environmental Assessment for 55,000 acres of project area
- Survey data and associated reports for 10,000 priority acres within the ESCCRP
- Facilitate and complete NEPA
- Create and improve Monitoring Plan for the ESCCRP
- Map priority areas for future implementation work
- Confirm CEQA Lead Agency and prepare total ESCCRP area for CEQA
- Plan for Long term financial security for the ESCCRP

**6.03 Project Description:**

**6.03.1 Location:** [Grantee will implement the Project **(for implementation projects) OR (for planning projects)** The Project is located on approximately 55,000 acres of privately-owned **and** publicly-owned land located at 37.639590, -118.966360 in Mono and Madera County, California (Project Site).

**6.03.2 Materials and Equipment:** Property acquisitions and equipment purchases must comply with Section 21 of Exhibit 1.a. All materials and

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## EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

equipment are included in subcontractor costs or will be provided as cost share by Grantee.

- 6.03.3 Project Implementation:** Consistent with Grantee's proposal for the Project, Project Management subcontractor will complete the following tasks in accordance with Section 6.03.6 – Schedule of Due Dates and Deliverables:

**Task 1 – Project Management and Administration**

ESCOG Personnel & Project Management will work together to provide technical and administrative services associated with implementation of the Project, including managing this Agreement, assuring all permits are finalized, administering subcontracts, invoicing and payments, drafting and finalizing progress and final reports, and data management.

**Subtask 1.1 – Data Management**

**Project Management** will coordinate data management activities. Grantee shall submit a Data Management Plan. The CDFW Grant Manager will provide Grantee the Data Management Plan form upon request.

Project Management subcontractors, Environmental Planning subcontractors and the project implementation subcontractors are responsible for ensuring that Project data are collected using peer-approved methods, undergo a quality control and accuracy assessment process, include metadata that meet CDFW's minimum standards (<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/BIOS/Metadata>) and include documentation of the methods and quality assessments utilized, and are properly stored and protected until the Project has been completed and data have been delivered as required under this Agreement.

All scientific data collection efforts are required to include metadata files or records indicating at a minimum:

1. Who collected the data;
2. When the data was collected;
3. Where the data was collected;
4. How the data was collected (description of methods and protocols);
5. The purposes for which the data was collected;
6. Definitions of variables, fields, codes, and abbreviations used in the data, including units of measure;
7. The terms of any landowner access agreement(s), if applicable;
8. References to any related CDFW permits or regulatory

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**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

actions;

9. Peer review or statistical consultation documentation; and
10. Data licensing and disclaimer language.

All data and associated metadata collected by or created under this Agreement are a required deliverable of this Agreement. All data deliverables should be budgeted for and included in the Project timeline as a part of this Agreement. A condition of final payment on this Agreement shall include the delivery of all related data assets. Geospatial data must be delivered in an industry-standard geospatial data format where applicable and documented with metadata in accordance with the CDFW Minimum Metadata Standards.

Data related to observation, occurrence or distribution of state or federal special status species or California Native Plant Society listed species shall be reported to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) using the online field survey form or other digital method.

**Water quality data** generated by the Project will be collected in a manner that is compatible and consistent with the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN, <http://www.ceden.org/>) (CWC § 79704). Grantee shall upload relevant data to CEDEN and provide a receipt of successful data submission, generated by CEDEN, to the CDFW Grant Manager prior to submitting a Final Invoice.

### **Task 2 - Interdisciplinary Team (IDT)**

Project Management will oversee all subcontractors. The interdisciplinary team will be built by the Project Management subcontractor and Environmental Planning subcontractor, in partnership with the Inyo National Forest IDT team. The INF will mentor and work with the Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) to ensure early alignment. The INF will provide content and review of position descriptions, help recruit, and make hiring recommendations for IDT members. Once the IDT is hired, the INF will mentor, help train and support team building, to optimize the new IDT and INF IDT alignment. Grantee and INF will ensure that continued collaboration with the Inyo National Forest IDT occurs.

### **Task 3 –Surveys and Permits**

Project Management and Environmental Planning subcontractors will be overseeing and working with INF to schedule and conduct surveys. Environmental Planning subcontractor will determine applicable Inyo National Forest land and resource management plan components and review for compliance and development of project

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design features for all assessments and surveys to be conducted. Environmental Planning subcontractor will use the data and research gathered to recommend project design features or proposed action modifications or alternatives. The INF will provide a forester to cover the silvicultural survey and reporting requirements contained within this project scope.

**Subtask 3.1 - Botanical Assessment**

Project Management and Environmental Planning subcontractors will submit the Botanical Assessment to the Grantee for submission to CDFW which will include but not limited to:

- Review known information about at-risk species habitat;
- Conduct vegetation mapping, biological surveys, and habitat assessments in priority areas;
- Prepare a Summary Survey Report and GIS---based maps;
- Prepare a Draft Analysis of At-risk Plants including habitat evaluation; and
- Prepare a Weed Risk Assessment Report and determine weed spread mitigations.

**Subtask 3.2 - Archaeological Assessment**

The Project Management and Environmental Planning subcontractors will obtain archaeological research permit from the Forest Service.

Grantee will:

- Survey priority areas that do not have existing up-to-date records. Record sites utilizing "Historic Property Recording Specifications";
- Record all newly discovered prehistoric, ethnographic, and historical heritage resources encountered within and directly adjacent to the project area(s);
- Re-record or supplement existing site records as needed based on discrepancies, alterations and impacts observed;
- Record all heritage resource sites using State Historic Preservation Office (DPR-523) site forms; and
- Use USFS Region 5 standards to record all site boundaries (resource-grade Global Positioning System (GPS), no recreational GPS units will be allowed).

Grantee will then assign CA State Trinomial numbers for all sites in project area for inclusion in the Final Report. Grantee will Draft Project Effects Analysis Report. In-Situ Artifact Recording

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procedures will be followed during both inventory and site recording activities. Grantee will oversee subcontractor Forest Service who will consult with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for concurrence on eligibility and effects findings.

**Subtask 3.3 - Silvicultural Assessment**

The USFS will complete timber stand examinations and summary report of findings. As well as completing fire behavior modeling using a variety of fire modeling tools (Pyrogence, FlamMap, Behave) and summary report of findings. Develop Draft Silvicultural Prescription based on findings and Draft Project Effects Analysis Report.

**Subtask 3.4 - Wildlife Habitat Assessment**

The Project Management and Environmental Planning teams will review known information about at-risk species habitat in the project area. Grantee will conduct habitat mapping, wildlife surveys, and habitat assessments to the level necessary, to include State listed species as necessary preparation for CEQA. As well as oversee the USFS who will consult with the US Fish and Wildlife Service to produce a Biological Opinion for species with Federal status.

The Project Management and Environmental Planning teams will submit to the CDFW Grant Manager the following:

- Summary Survey Report and Geographic Information System (GIS)---based maps.
- Draft Analysis of Species of Conservation Concern, which will include habitat evaluation
- A Draft Biological Assessment for species with Federal status, including threatened, endangered, or proposed threatened or endangered
- Biological Opinion

**Subtask 3.5 - Recreation Assessment**

The Project Management and Environmental Planning teams use existing GIS and other information to identify recreational facilities and activities within the project area. Grantee will be responsible to ensure public outreach regarding recreational concerns to the local communities and visitors. The Project Management and Environmental Planning teams will identify facilities and/or activities that have the potential for beneficial or adverse effects from wildfire as well as possible effects to the Project. Project Management will submit to CDFW Grant Manager a Recreational Effects Analysis for the project.

**Subtask 3.6 – Environmental Assessment, Conduct NEPA Scoping & Facilitate Decision Process**

The Project Management and Environmental Planning teams will oversee and complete all necessary actions to produce National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance documents for review and finalization by the Inyo National Forest Responsible Official. The Project Management team's role will include facilitation of stakeholder group public engagement, scoping, comment period, and tribal consultation. Public and tribal participation for NEPA compliance is the responsibility of INF Responsible Official. The Project Management and Environmental Planning teams will work with the INF to complete a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) document for public comment, to allow the INF Responsible Official to determine whether there are possible significant or unknown effects that would require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). If a FONSI cannot be completed, and an EIS is required, any necessary additional funding needed will be obtained outside this grant and will be an in-kind match for this grant. Grantee will work with the INF to finalize all NEPA compliance documents and facilitate the public participation and notification process for the final decision.

The Project Management and Environmental Planning teams will submit all draft and final copies of NEPA documents to the CDFW Grant Manager.

**Task 4 - Prepare Eastern Sierra Climate & Communities Resilience Project (ESCCRP) for Implementation**

The Project Management Team will oversee the Implementation Subcontractor Implementation Prep, who will work on the following Subtasks to ensure the ESCCRP is ready for implementation once the NEPA planning is complete.

**Task 5 - Preparations for CEQA Planning Needs**

Based off private lands identified for inclusion, as well as to prepare Federal lands to be eligible for future State grant funds, ESCOG Personnel, the Project Management team and Environmental Planning Team would assess additional CEQA planning needs, work with partners to identify an appropriate lead agency for CEQA, review current legislation to identify CEQA planning needs for Federally owned property, prepare a draft budget for CEQA planning needs for ESCCRP, and identify funding opportunity to support CEQA

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compliance work as needed. The Project Management subcontractor will submit to CDFW Grant Manager CEQA Lead Agency documentation, maps of non-federal lands to be included in ESCCRP, and a Draft Scope and Budget for CEQA planning.

**Task 6 - Monitoring Plan**

The Project Management team, in partnership with the INF ID Team and the Implementation Preparation team, will establish additional baseline monitoring requirements, in addition to the already established monitoring in the INF Land Management Plan. Grantee will work with partners to maximize the learning opportunity the ESCCRP provides. The Project Management team will work with INF to determine how the standard monitoring required covers the project area and develop a Monitoring plan that will include but is not limited to:

- Identify established protocols and monitoring efforts by partners, adjacent landowners, and collaborating agencies.
- Work with Project Management and Project Implementation subcontractors and INF ID Team to implement Monitoring Guidance.
- Ensure the monitoring developed is within technical, financial, and staffing capability of the INF and partners.
- Develop performance measures to be included with Monitoring Plan.

The Project Management team will work with the INF and Implementation Prep subcontractor to determine what additional monitoring specific to this project will be required under the terms of the INF Land Management Plan. The Project Management team will work with United States Forest Service (USFS) (in-kind) and academic researchers to develop monitoring protocols.

**Task 7 - Education & Outreach**

The Project Management and Implementation Preparation teams will work with the Education & Outreach Coordinator to prepare and implement the Ad Hoc team workplan. This coordinator will also work with Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Planning (RFFC) Program and ESCCRP stakeholders to develop outreach and education strategy for the ESCCRP. Grantee will create printed materials and media content which will include but not limited to:

- Fliers and mailings
- Dedicated project social media and web content
- All content will be translated into Spanish

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**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

- The Education and Outreach staff including in the Implementation Team budget will prepare an Outreach and Education workplan during Phase 1 of the project that will be submitted to CDFW

The Project Management and Environmental Planning teams will hold real time group chats adapted for various target audiences and scientific lectures focused on forest restoration aimed at both residents and visitors. The Project Management team will submit to the CDFW Grant Manager all final copies of education and outreach documents.

**Task 8 Local Workforce Development**

The Project Management and Implementation Planning teams will meet with local contractors and community leaders to identify business opportunities to meet the pace and scale needs of the ESCCRP. Grantee will develop a Local Workforce Matrix that will but is not limited to:

- Identify State and local assistance programs to aid in business expansion.
- Develop, with Subcontractor INF ID team, long term fuels contracts to incentivize investments by local businesses.
- Work with local tribes to develop workforce programs.
- Identify contractors for implementation work based on the ESCCRP

The Project Management team will submit to the CDFW Grant Manager a copy of the finalized Local Workforce Matrix.

**Task 9 - Finance & Marketing Plan**

The Project Management team, in partnership with the Project Implementation Team, will develop a Long Term Financial and Marketing Plan for ESCCRP. Project Management and the Implementation team will oversee Subcontractor INF and LADWP expand ecosystem services pilot project to include the Upper Owens River Watershed fuels work within the ESCCRP. This pilot project, formally adopted in June 2021 between the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the United States Forest Service (USFS) is the first-of-its-kind partnership in the Eastern Sierra. The pilot program consists of numerous projects aimed at improving forest resiliency, increasing carbon capture, decreasing wildfires, and enhancing wildlife habitats and watersheds in the Eastern Sierra in recognition of the importance of Inyo National Forest lands to the City of Los Angeles The Project

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**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

Management team and Implementation Prep Team will work with local water district, fire district and Town Council to identify development of local measures or similar tools which will be used to support fuels management. Grantee will identify funding support ESCCRP long term by working with the Chamber of Commerce to create a program from which local businesses can support implementation of the ESCCRP. In addition, the Project Management, and the Project Implementation teams will work with Mammoth Mountain Ski Area and Southern California Edison to identify appropriate investments from those entities based on benefits received.

**6.03.4 Schedule of Due Dates and Deliverables:**

<b><u>Task</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Deliverables</u></b>	<b><u>Estimated Completion Dates</u></b>
1	Project Management and Administration	Quarterly Progress Reports	Due within 30 days following each calendar quarter (March, June, September, December) following grant execution.
		Quarterly, Invoices	Due within 30 days following each calendar quarter (March, June, September, December) after grant execution.
		Copies of Executed Subcontracts	With following Quarterly Progress Report upon completion
		Submit Data Management Plan  Submit Project Description Data to EcoAtlas Project Tracker  Submit Project Data	

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## EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

<u>Task</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Deliverables</u>	<u>Estimated Completion Dates</u>
		Draft Final Report	2/1/2025
		Final Report	3/1/2025
		Project Close-out Summary Report	3/15/2025
		Final Invoice	4/30/2025
2	[Task Name]		[Insert Date]
3	[Task Name]		[Insert Date]
4	[Task Name]		[Insert Date]

**SECTION 7 – CONTACTS**

A point of contact may be changed at any time by either party by providing a 10 day advance written notice to the other party. The Parties hereby designate the following points of contact during the Agreement Term:

<b>CDFW Grant Manager:</b>		<b>Grantee Project Manager:</b>	
<b>Name:</b>		<b>Name:</b>	Elaine Kabala
<b>Title:</b>		<b>Title:</b>	Executive Director
<b>Address:</b>		<b>Address:</b>	377 West Line Street
<b>Phone:</b>		<b>Phone:</b>	323-652-0390
<b>Email:</b>		<b>Email:</b>	ekabala@escog.ca.gov

Direct all administrative inquiries to:

<b>CDFW Grant Coordinator:</b>		<b>Grantee Project Coordinator:</b>	
<b>Name:</b>		<b>Name:</b>	Elaine Kabala
<b>Title:</b>		<b>Title:</b>	Executive Director
<b>Address:</b>		<b>Address:</b>	377 West Line Street
<b>Phone:</b>		<b>Phone:</b>	323-652-0390
<b>Email:</b>		<b>Email:</b>	ekabala@escog.ca.gov

**SECTION 8 – REPORTS**

**8.01 Progress Reports:** Grantee shall submit **quarterly**, progress reports that comply

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with the requirements below to the CDFW Grant Manager. The CDFW Grant Manager will provide Grantee with progress report templates.

**Requirements:**

1. Grantee name, the Project title, this Agreement number, and dates progress report covers;
2. Activities and tasks performed and/or completed, a summary of progress to date including progress since the last report, and a brief outline of upcoming work scheduled for the subsequent quarter;
3. Documentation of all subcontractor activities;
4. Updates on progress towards meeting Project objectives, output and outcome performance measures;
5. Document delivery of any intermediate work products;
6. Costs incurred during the subject period, total of costs incurred to date, and the remaining balance;
7. Any problems encountered while performing the tasks and proposed solutions, timeline for resolution, and status of previously unresolved problems; and
8. Grantee must submit Quarterly Progress Reports, electronically in PDF or Microsoft Word compatible format and conform to the templates provided by the CDFW Grant Manager.

**8.02 Draft and Final Reports:** Grantee must submit a draft final report and final report electronically to the CDFW Grant Manager by the dates listed in Section 6.03.6 – Schedule of Due Dates and Deliverables (Draft Final Report and Final Report). The Draft Final Report and Final Report must summarize the life of the Agreement and describe the work and results pursuant to Section 6 - Project Statement. The CDFW Grant Manager will provide Grantee a sample final report template.

**8.03 Project Close-Out Summary Report:** Grantee must submit a Project close-out summary report to the CDFW Grant Manager in either PDF or Microsoft Word compatible format by the date listed in Section 6.03.6 – Schedule of Due Dates and Deliverables (Project Close-Out Summary Report). Grantee's Project Close-Out Summary Report must summarize the Project's accomplishments consistent with the Watershed Restoration Grants Program goals. Grantee shall include a Final Invoice (as defined in Section 9.02.2 of this Agreement) with the Project Close-Out Summary Report. The CDFW Grant Manager will provide Grantee with a Project Close-Out Summary Report template.

**8.04 Document Accessibility:** Grantee must submit all documentation required as part of this agreement to the CDFW Grant Manager in a format that meets web content accessibility standards (<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Accessibility>).

**SECTION 9 – BUDGET AND PAYMENT**

**9.01 Budget Details and Funding Summary:** Grantor will provide an amount not to

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**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

exceed \$3,384,269 as detailed in the Line Item Budget Detail (Budget) below. Grantee will provide \$XX,XXX in funds or in-kind services as cost share to complete the tasks described in Section 6 – Project Statement. Other funders will provide up to \$XX,XXX in funds or in-kind services as cost share to complete tasks described in Section 6 - Project Statement. Grantee will provide Grantor accurate records of all cost share with the Final Invoice.

<b>Line Item Budget Detail</b>	
<b>A. PERSONNEL SERVICES</b>	
Administrative Assistant	\$48,000
Executive Director	\$69,750
Legal Counsel	\$6,040
<b>Subtotal Personnel Services</b>	<b>\$123,790</b>
Staff Benefits	\$0
<b>Subtotal Personnel Services</b>	<b>\$123,790</b>
<b>B. OPERATING EXPENSES: GENERAL</b>	
Field Supplies	\$0
Travel (Not to exceed State reimbursement rates)	\$0
<b>Subtotal Operating Expenses: General</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>C. OPERATING EXPENSES: SUBCONTRACTORS</b>	
Project Management	\$279,268
Environmental Planning Services	\$2,511,375
Inyo National Forest	\$228,629
Implementation Preparation	\$211,446
Biomass Planning Advancement	\$229,940
<b>Subtotal Operating Expenses: Subcontractors</b>	<b>\$3,460,721</b>
<b>D. OPERATING EXPENSES: EQUIPMENT</b>	
Equipment item	\$0
<b>Subtotal Operating Expenses: Equipment</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>E. INDIRECT COSTS</b>	
Indirect Charge Rate XX% (Applies to Sections A + B, and the first \$25K of each subcontractor)	\$49,758
<b>F. GRAND TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)</b>	<b>\$3,634,269</b>

**9.02 Payment Provisions**

**9.02.1 Disbursements:** Grantor will disburse Grant Funds to Grantee not more

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**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

frequently than quarterly, in arrears, upon receipt of an original itemized invoice and any required mandatory documentation as identified in Section 6.03.6 – Schedule of Due Dates and Deliverables.

Disbursements will be mailed to the following Grantee address:

<b>Grantee Name:</b>	Eastern Sierra Council of Governments
<b>Attention:</b>	Janet Dutcher
<b>Address:</b>	PO Box 556 Bridgeport, CA 93517

**9.02.2 Invoice Documentation:** Each invoice for payment must be accompanied by a written description, not to exceed two pages in length, of Grantee's performance under this Agreement since the time the previous such report was prepared. The report shall describe the types of activities and specific accomplishments during the period for which the payment is being made rather than merely listing the number of hours worked during the reporting period. The report may be in the form of a Quarterly Progress Report. The final invoice must include a budget summary of all cost share expenditures by fund source, as applicable (Final Invoice). The CDFW Grant Manager will provide Grantee with a sample invoice template. The Final Invoice is due in accordance with Section 6.03.6 – Schedule of Due Dates and Deliverables. The invoice package must be submitted through WebGrants to the CDFW Grant Manager.

**Requirements:** The invoice shall contain the following information:

1. The word "Invoice" should appear in a prominent location at the top of the page(s);
2. Printed name of Grantee on company letterhead;
3. Grantee's business address, including P.O. Box, City, State, and Zip Code;
4. Name the CDFW Watershed Restoration Grants Branch as the entity being billed;
5. The invoice date and the time period covered; i.e., the term "from" and "to";
6. This Agreement number and the sequential number of the invoice (i.e., Qxx96xxx-Invoice 1);
7. The invoice must be itemized using the categories and following the format of the Budget;
8. The total amount due. This should be in a prominent location in the lower right-hand portion of the last page and clearly distinguished from other figures or computations appearing on the invoice. The total amount due shall include all costs incurred by Grantee under the terms of this Agreement;
9. The original signature of Grantee; and

**QXX96xxx**

**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

10. Grantee must provide supporting documentation for the invoice and actual receipts.

DRAFT

**QXX96xxx**

**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be duly executed as of Grantor date set forth below the signature.

**AUTHORIZED AGENT FOR GRANTEE**

By:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: Elaine Kabala

Title: Executive Director

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

By:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: Matt Wells

Title: Chief, Watershed Restoration Grants Branch

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*This Agreement is exempt from DGS-OLS approval, per SCM 4.06.*



**Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)  
Joint Powers Authority Agenda**

**STAFF REPORT**

**To:** ESCOG Joint Powers Authority  
**From:** Elaine Kabala, ESCOG Staff  
**Subject:** 2020 California State Redistricting  
**Meeting date:** August 13, 2021  
**Prepared on:** August 3, 2021  
**Attachments:** A) Correspondence from the ESCOG Board to California Redistricting Commission

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**BACKGROUND/HISTORY:**

At the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments meeting held June 11, 2021, the ESCOG Board directed staff to prepare correspondence to the California Redistricting Commission providing the following recommendations on State Senate and Assembly Redistricting. The recommendations were developed by a subcommittee of the ESCOG which included: Supervisor Stacy Corless, Mono County; Supervisor Jeff Griffiths, Inyo County; Councilmember Lynda Salcido, Town of Mammoth Lakes; and Karen Schwartz, City of Bishop.

The first priority expressed by the ESCOG is that Eastern Sierra counties, specifically Inyo and Mono Counties, should be defined as a community of interest with shared state and federal representation. Currently, Mono County is represented by State Assembly District 5 served by Assemblyman Frank Bigelow and Inyo County is represented by Assembly District 26 served by Assemblyman Devon Mathis. Both Counties are represented by California Senate District 8. Historically, our constituents in both Counties have felt underrepresented at the State level, largely due to our geographic isolation on the east side of the Sierra Nevada. No State representative maintains a local office in either Inyo or Mono County.

As a second priority, the ESCOG expressed their preference to share regional representation with other Sierra Nevada counties, including Mariposa County, Tuolumne County, Calaveras County, Amador County, Alpine County, and parts of El Dorado County, Placer County, Nevada County and Sierra County to form a Sierra Nevada district defined by shared issues, geographies, watersheds, histories, and cultures.

In order to provide these recommendations to the California Redistricting Commission, staff presented the draft correspondence to each member agency and received authorization for the ESCOG board to submit the attached correspondence.

The U.S. Census Bureau announced its plans to release 2020 census results on Tuesday, August 12, 2021. This long awaited dataset will still need to be reformatted by the California Statewide Database to a usable format and reallocate those in state detention to their last known address, which is expected to take an additional month. In the meantime, the California Redistricting Commission has indicated it will continue to collect Communities of Interest information from Californians until the appropriate dataset to begin line drawing is available. They intend to petition the California Supreme Court for a January 14, 2022 deadline to submit final maps.

Budget Impacts:

None

Legal Review:

ESCOG Counsel Chuchla has reviewed this item and finds that the recommended action complies with the law.

Recommendation:

Request the Board direct staff to submit the correspondence to the California Redistricting Commission.



## **EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (ESCOG) Joint Powers Authority**

July 23, 2021

California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
C/O Public Comment  
721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### **RE: 2020 California Citizens Redistricting**

Dear Honorable California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on California's 2020 redistricting process. Following regional discussions with the Mono County Board of Supervisors, the Inyo County Board of Supervisors, the City of Bishop, and the Town of Mammoth Lakes, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) would like to request the following considerations be made to better configure representation for our area to align with our shared culture, geography, and issues.

The first priority of the ESCOG is that Eastern Sierra counties, specifically Inyo and Mono Counties, should be defined as a community of interest with shared state and federal representation. Currently, Mono County is represented by State Assembly District 5 served by Assemblyman Frank Bigelow and Inyo County is represented by Assembly District 26 served by Assemblyman Devon Mathis. Both Counties are represented by California Senate District 8. Historically, our constituents in both Counties have felt underrepresented at the State level, largely due to our geographic isolation on the east side of the Sierra Nevada. No State representative maintains a local office in either Inyo or Mono County.

Eastern California Districts are currently connected to greater population centers on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada and Central Valley that do not share any of those characteristics in common with the east side of the Sierra Nevada. Access to the Eastern Sierra from the west side of the Sierra Nevada requires traversing the 14,000 foot mountain range over high mountain passes – travel that is lengthy and circuitous in

summer months, and significantly extended when mountain passes close for winter months.

Indeed, these mountains present such a formidable barrier between the Central Valley and Eastern Sierra that no roads cross the Sierra Nevada for a span of approximately 250 miles between Sherman Pass to the south and Tioga Pass to the north. When residents of Inyo and Mono Counties need to access urban amenities such as an international airport or a big-box retailer, they tend to travel south to the Los Angeles area or north to the Reno area, as traveling west over the mountains is inefficient and difficult. Thus, the ESCOG feels that it makes little sense and dilutes the voice of the residents of Inyo and Mono Counties to tether east-side residents to west-side counties that are so geographically divided from the Eastern Sierra.

The Eastern Sierra is foremost defined by its proximity to the striking eastern escarpment of the Sierra Nevada. The region represents unique geology and ecology in California, as the westernmost valley of the Great Basin region in the rain shadow of the Sierra Nevada. The Eastern Sierra, known as Payahuunadu or Panawe, has been and continues to be the ancestral home of the Paiute (Nuumu), Shoshone (Newe) and Timbisha peoples for over ten thousand years. Eastern Sierra counties have a shared history of pioneers, prospectors, farmers, and ranchers.

More contemporarily, the region is defined by a shared frontier culture that celebrates its connection to the mountains, to its rural identity, and the abundance of outdoor and adventure recreation opportunities in our mutual backyard. Inyo County and Mono County have regionally connected economies centered on shared resources and integrated tourism markets. Bishop, in Inyo County, serves as the regional hub for federal and state services. Mammoth Lakes, in Mono County, is home to the premier ski resort destination for greater southern California, which continues to be a primary driver for business opportunities along the Highway 395 corridor. Inyo County is a gateway to Death Valley and Kings Canyon – Sequoia National Parks. Mono County is a gateway to Yosemite National Park. Many visitors travel through the region to enjoy each park in succession, and tourism travel is a shared base economy for both Counties.

The Eastern Sierra region has unique and unifying regional issues that would benefit from united regional state representation. Both counties are characterized by significant percentages (>90%) of federally owned and managed land, as well as water exportation and land management by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. No other county in the State of California is characterized greater than 50% of private land owned by California municipality outside their boundaries. Both Counties have less than 5% of their land area available for private ownership or development – a shared community and economic development constraint impacting shared regional housing and retail development opportunities.

As a second priority, Inyo and Mono Counties would like to share regional representation with other Sierra Nevada counties, including Mariposa County, Tuolumne County, Calaveras County, Amador County, Alpine County, and parts of El

Dorado County, Placer County, Nevada County and Sierra County to form an Sierra Nevada district defined by shared issues, geographies, watersheds, histories, and cultures.

The ESCOG respectfully requests the Honorable California Citizens Redistricting Commission redraw representational boundaries to include Inyo and Mono Counties within the same State Senate and Assembly Districts. The Eastern Sierra Council of Governments further requests the Honorable California Citizens Redistricting Commission provide for shared representation for all counties with the Sierra Nevada, and in particular, within the eastern watersheds of the Sierra Nevada. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the cornerstone of our United States and State of California democracy, which is local representation.

Please feel welcome to contact me with further questions at [kschwartz@cityofbishop.com](mailto:kschwartz@cityofbishop.com).

Sincerely,

Karen Schwartz  
Chair, Eastern Sierra Council of Governments



## STAFF REPORT

**To:** ESCOG Joint Powers Authority  
**From:** Elaine Kabala, ESCOG Staff  
**Subject:** Fall 2021 Regional Housing Strategy Kick-off Meeting  
**Meeting date:** August 13, 2021  
**Prepared on:** August 3, 2021  
**Attachments:** None

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### **BACKGROUND/HISTORY:**

At the ESCOG meeting held June 11, 2021, the ESCOG Board agreed to organize a regional workshop on housing issues in the Eastern Sierra and directed staff to coordinate with Supervisor Griffiths and Councilman Wentworth to develop an outline for the housing workshop. Subsequent to the meeting, staff met with the ESCOG Boardmembers, as well as Supervisor Krietz of Mono County, to identify the intent, draft agenda, and appropriate stakeholders as follows:

#### **Intent:**

The Eastern Sierra Regional Community Housing Kick Off Meeting will be comprised of regional county and city jurisdictions, local affordable housing non-profits, regional employers, community development staff, and major land owners, convened by the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments, to achieve three primary goals:

1. Educate local housing partners on the baseline existing incentives/tools, opportunities and constraints of housing concerns in the Eastern Sierra;
2. Develop a collective policy agenda that identifies specific actions, responsible parties, and potential funding sources for regional housing stakeholders;
3. Create a dynamic working group where all housing stakeholders and advocates can further discuss issues, with the intent of creating a shared policy platform, identifying regional resources for housing preservation, protection, and production.

Draft Agenda:

1. Presentation of baseline housing conditions, policies, and programs for each jurisdiction
2. High level discussion of housing constraints, capacity, and solutions that have led to meaningful results
3. Breakout focus groups for housing strategy development, assigning responsible parties, and identifying possible funding sources for implementation.
4. Compare notes
5. Identify next steps

Stakeholders:

- Town of Mammoth Lakes Housing
- Mono County
- Inyo County
- City of Bishop
- Mammoth Lakes Housing
- Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action
- Alterra
- US Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

The Regional Housing Kick-off Meeting would be scheduled for Fall 2021.

**BUDGET IMPACTS:**

There are no budget impacts associated with this item.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

ESCOG Counsel Grace Chuchla has reviewed this item and found that it complies with the law.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Board provide feedback on the draft agenda and stakeholder list, and if appropriate direct staff to organize the Regional Housing Kick-off Meeting for Fall 2021.



## STAFF REPORT

**To:** ESCOG Joint Powers Authority

**From:** Elaine Kabala, ESCOG Staff

**Subject:** Draft Memorandum of Understanding for Establishment and Participation in the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership

**Meeting date:** August 13, 2021

**Prepared on:** August 3, 2021

**Attachments:** A) Draft Memorandum of Understanding for Establishment and Participation in the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership

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### **BACKGROUND/HISTORY:**

The Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP) is a unique partnership among local Eastern Sierra governments, state agencies, federal agencies, and sovereign tribes. The partnership has included: the City of Bishop; the Town of Mammoth Lakes; Los Angeles Department of Water and Power; Alpine County; Inyo County; Mono County; the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans); the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments; the National Park Service (NPS) at Death Valley National Park, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, Yosemite National Parks, Devils Postpile National Monument, and Manzanar National Historic Site; the Bureau of Land Management (BLM); and the United States Forest Service (USFS) at Inyo National Forest and Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. Over the duration of the Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative (SRTI), the partners have met monthly for the purposes of working collaboratively on environmentally sustainable recreation in the Eastern Sierra.

The Memorandum of Understanding for Establishment and Participation in the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (MOU) (Attachment A) is intended to document the partners desire to work cooperatively on mutually beneficial plans, programs, and projects that improve public services, infrastructure, and natural and cultural resources in the Eastern Sierra after the expiration of the Sustainable Recreation Tourism Initiative (SRTI).

### **ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION:**

The responsibilities of the parties of the MOU primarily include participation in regular ESSRP meetings, sharing resources such as experience and expertise, compliance with all applicable laws, and maintaining project inventories of work relevant to the ESSRP.

The Draft MOU prepared by the SRTI team for Your Board's consideration includes responsibilities unique to the ESCOG, specifically:

*Section 2.12 Particular Responsibilities of the ESCOG. ESCOG will endeavor, upon approval and/or direction by its Board and the Boards of its four member agencies, to leverage its position as a regional entity to pursue funding opportunities that may not be accessible to other PARTIES whose jurisdiction is limited to one specific national park, national forest, county, city, town, etc. ESCOG will also attempt to pursue funding opportunities that are related to the SREMP or any future programs that may be authorized by the ESCOG Board and all member agencies.*

Staff requests Your Board consider and approve adding the language defining the responsibilities of the ESCOG. Following Your Board's direction regarding this language, the SRTI team will coordinate review of the MOU with the other ESSRP partners, and will return the ESCOG Board for final approval of the MOU.

### **Budget Impacts:**

None

### **Legal Review:**

ESCOG Counsel Chuchla has reviewed this item and finds that the recommended action complies with the law.

### **Recommendation:**

Request the Board consider and approve adding the language defining the responsibilities of the ESCOG in the Draft Memorandum of Understanding for Establishment and Participation in the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN THE  
EASTERN SIERRA SUSTAINABLE RECREATION PARTNERSHIP**

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) is made and entered into by and between the parties who have executed this MOU. Each entity who executes this MOU as shown in Attachment A is a "PARTY" to this MOU and all entities are considered "PARTIES" to this MOU.

**RECITALS**

A. The Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP) is a unique partnership among local Eastern Sierra governments, state agencies, federal agencies, and sovereign tribes. The municipalities may include, but are not limited to: the City of Bishop and the Town of Mammoth Lakes, California municipal corporations. The municipal utilities may include, but are not limited to: the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. The counties may include but are not limited to: the Counties of Alpine, Inyo, and Mono, political subdivisions of the State of California. The state agencies may include, but are not limited to: the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), a department within the State of California. Other public entities may include but are not limited to: the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments, a California joint powers authority. The federal agencies may include but are not limited to: the National Park Service (NPS) at Death Valley National Park, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, Yosemite National Parks, Devils Postpile National Monument, and Manzanar National Historic Site; the Bureau of Land Management (BLM); and the United States Forest Service (USFS) at Inyo National Forest and Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest.

B. On July 18, 2017, the Mono County Board of Supervisors and the Mammoth Lakes Town Council held a joint meeting to initiate the ESSRP.

C. On July 19, 2018, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mono County, USFS Inyo National Forest, and USFS Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest entered into a Non-Funded Challenge Cost Share Agreement (Cost Sharing Agreement). The Cost Sharing Agreement sets forth the ESSRP goals, including the creation of healthy forests and watersheds, fire-safe communities, and sustainable local economies. The Cost Sharing Agreement intends to reduce duplication of efforts and harness the expertise of employees of all parties as well as maximize cash and non-cash contributions leading to joint accomplishment of work. This MOU intends to extend the understanding between the four parties to the Cost Sharing Agreement to all of the ESSRP PARTIES.

D. On August 20, 2019, Alpine County voted to join the ESSRP, on September 9, 2019, the City of Bishop voted to join the ESSRP, and on October 8, 2019, Inyo County voted to join the ESSRP.

E. The BLM, Caltrans, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and the National Park Service have also been actively engaged in the ESSRP partnership.

F. The California Department of Parks and Recreation may wish to join this MOU, and PARTIES plan to form an ESSRP Subcommittee for Tribal Coordination to conduct tribal outreach and coordination.

G. PARTIES intend to memorialize their agreement and intentions with this MOU.

**NOW THEREFORE**, in consideration of the foregoing and other good and valuable consideration, the PARTIES agree as follows:

**AGREEMENT**

**1. PURPOSE**

1.1 Environmentally sustainable recreation in the Eastern Sierra. The purpose of this MOU is to document the PARTIES' desire to work cooperatively on mutually beneficial plans, programs, and projects that improve public services, infrastructure, and natural and cultural resources in the Counties of Alpine, Inyo, and Mono (Eastern Sierra). The PARTIES intend to: design, plan, implement, and promote projects to improve and maintain recreational opportunities; restore ecosystems to their natural resiliency and functions; cooperatively perform projects, maximize resources, reduce redundancies; increase transparency between and with stakeholders; improve programs, public services, infrastructure and natural resources; implement a sustainable recreation program and infrastructure; and create fire-safe communities.

1.2 Opportunities. The PARTIES intend to establish their mutual goals, purposes, and opportunities so PARTIES can share resources, staff, and otherwise work together to improve recreation and preservation in the Eastern Sierra through grants and other funding sources, including but not limited to the following:

- a. Proposition 68 funding for SRTI. On March 7, 2019, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's Governing Board demonstrated a pioneering commitment to rural California's outdoor recreation economy and natural resources by authorizing Proposition 68 funding for the Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative (SRTI), a project to benefit the conservancy's eastern subregion, including Inyo, Mono, and Alpine counties. The initiative focused on four key endeavors: regional recreation stakeholder engagement, climate adaptation and resilience, the connection to the Eastern Sierra visitor audience, and project prioritization and implementation.
- b. NPS funding to increase public lands experience in Eastern California. On November 22, 2019, the NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program awarded a grant to convene, facilitate and report on a gathering of the superintendents of NPS units from Death Valley, Devils Postpile National Monument, Manzanar National Historic Site, Sequoia & Kings Canyon, and Yosemite to determine their willingness, either as individual units or as a group, to join the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership and to work with local communities to benefit America's public-lands experience in Eastern California.
- c. Sierra Nevada Conservancy funding for ecosystem health and fire resiliency. On January 30, 2020, the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program (RFFCP) for the Sierra Nevada Conservancy -- an agency of the State of California -- authorized \$179,300 in California Climate Investments (CCI) funds for work in Mono, Inyo and Alpine Counties to develop a regional priority plan to improve ecosystem health and fire resiliency and build capacity and provide technical assistance consistent with recommendations of the California Forest Carbon Plan, of which the foremost regional priority project, the "Eastern Sierra Climate and Communities Resilience Project" is already underway.
- d. Sierra Nevada Conservancy funding for forest health and fuel reduction. On March 5, 2020 and in recognition of the escalating hazard that wildfire poses to mountain communities and their associated economic dependence on recreational opportunities, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy authorized \$339,534 of Forest Health Proposition 1 and

Proposition 68 funds for "The Eastern Sierra Climate and Communities Resilience Project", an early and pro-active planning effort encompassing approximately 55,000 acres on Inyo National Forest lands surrounding the Town of Mammoth Lakes in Mono and Madera counties that will foster stakeholder involvement, define project goals and objectives, identify long term needs for success at this scale, develop proposed actions, and build support for a landscape-scale planning and implementation project that will result in forest health and fuels reduction treatments across the project's 55,000-acre planning area, thereby prioritizing forest health as a fundamental component of sustainable recreation in the region.

e. U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities funding to increase resilience of National Forests and surrounding lands, including campground upgrades in the Eastern Sierra. On May 18, 2020, the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities and the National Forest Foundation awarded \$150,000 for the "Inyo National Forest (California/Nevada) Campgrounds Business Plan" one of ten national awards to support the development of finance models as part of the "Innovative Finance for National Forests Grant Program" that seeks to leverage private sector capital to support resilience of the National Forest System and surrounding lands which, in collaboration with Quantified Ventures, will develop a business plan that evaluates needs for campgrounds, identifies potential sources of funding through cost-sharing partnerships, and proposes finance options to address an estimated \$70 million funding gap for campground upgrades in California's recreation-rich Eastern Sierra.

f. National Parks funds for maintenance. On August 4, 2020, the Great American Outdoors Act was signed into law, which will "...establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service, and the Bureau of Indian Education, and to provide permanent, dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and for other purposes..." all of which are of interest to the Eastern Sierra.

g. State and Federal cooperation for a range of environmental and recreation uses in the Eastern Sierra. On August 12, 2020, the State of California and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region, entered into an "Agreement for Shared Stewardship of California's Forests and Rangelands," citing multiple mutual benefits including specifically healthy forests and Sustainable Recreation that are interdependent interests of the Eastern Sierra, including: "....healthy forests will improve climate resilience and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, safeguard water quality and air quality, protect fish and wildlife habitat, enhance biological diversity, sequester carbon, improve recreational opportunities, and generate good jobs and economic Opportunities."

h. ESCOG awarded grant for environmental planning beginning with the Eastern Sierra Climate & Communities Resilience Project.. In late June 2021, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments, a joint powers agency (ESCOG) received a \$3.3 million dollar grant from CDFW to establish a locally staffed environmental planning team in the eastern Sierra. The

project, also known as the “Eastern Sierra Pace & Scale Accelerator,” aims to double environmental planning capacity in the region beginning with the region’s first landscape scale forest restoration project on the Inyo, the Eastern Sierra Climate & Communities Resilience Project, a 55,000 acre forest restoration project designed to first and foremost protect the Town of Mammoth Lakes, as well as the surrounding forest ecosystems on which many livelihoods depend. Once NEPA has been completed on that project, the team will be available to build a parallel program of work in partnership with the Federal agencies to bolster much needed environmental planning across the region, beginning with to the ESCOG’s Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Health Program (SREMP).

i. Cost Sharing Agreement can terminate. The Cost Sharing Agreement is set to terminate June 30, 2023. The parties to that Cost Sharing Agreement are also anticipated to be PARTIES to this more broadly applicable MOU, and those parties may choose to terminate that Cost Sharing Agreement earlier upon the Effective Date of this MOU.

1.3 Potential Projects. PARTIES seek to coordinate and undertake projects in the Eastern Sierra, including but not limited to those identified through the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership Priority Development (Development) described in the Cost Sharing Agreement, and projects included in the ESCOG: Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program (SREMP) established pursuant to ESCOG Resolution No. 20-03.

a. Projects identified through the Development may include, but are not limited to, projects within the following focus areas:

- Permitting facilitation and clean-up (i.e. use permits, film permits, other agreements);
- Maintenance and staffing of visitor centers;
- Existing "hard infrastructure" including bathrooms, pavement maintenance, water, sewer, other buildings;
- Existing "soft infrastructure" including trail maintenance, signage, campground service;
- New soft and hard infrastructure as described above;
- New trails and facility planning and construction;
- Local government recreational infrastructure maintenance, rehabilitation and new projects identification and work program development; and
- Project planning including environmental review.

b. The SREMP may include: Activities that seek to integrate responsible ecosystem management, natural resources conservation, sustainable outdoor recreation, and economic development using the best available science and in such a way as to strengthen and inspire all communities in the Eastern Sierra in their pursuits of resilience and sustainability through the functional alignment of partner agencies in pursuit of identified projects.

## 2. AGREEMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

All PARTIES agree to undertake the following responsibilities in carrying out the objectives of this MOU:

- 2.1 Participation. Participate in regular ESSRP meetings, sharing pertinent information with the ESSRP Partnership, its workgroups, and individual members. Assist in and promote the achievement of the collective goals of the ESSRP.
- 2.2 Shared Resources. Share experience, expertise, and resources as a means of advancing the ESSRP's common interests and conduct activities collaboratively approved by the ESSRP.
- 2.3 Comply with Applicable Law. Comply with all applicable federal, state, or local laws applicable to any action or approval taken pursuant to this MOU.
- 2.3 Project Inventory. If any projects are permitted, authorized, or funded by a PARTY, that PARTY shall maintain an inventory of work for regular review by all PARTIES that includes: title; location; funding; leads; status; and timelines.
- 2.4 Point of Contact. Designate an employee to serve as a single point of contact for this MOU, as shown in the Section 5.9 notice provisions below.
- 2.5 Assurance regarding Felony Conviction or Tax Delinquent Status for Corporate Entities. This MOU is subject to the provisions contained in the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012, P.L. No. 112-74, Division E, Section 433 and 434 as continued in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, P.L. No. 114-113, Division E, Title VII, General Provisions Section 745 and 746 respectively regarding corporate felony convictions and corporate federal tax delinquencies. Accordingly, by entering into this MOU, PARTIES acknowledge that they: 1) do not have a tax delinquency, meaning that they are not subject to any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that are not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, and (2) have not been convicted (or had an officer or agent acting on their behalf convicted) of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law within 24 months preceding the MOU, unless a suspending and debarring official of the United States Department of Agriculture has considered suspension or debarment is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government. If PARTIES fail to comply with these provisions, the USFS will annul this MOU and may recover any funds PARTIES have expended in violation of sections 433 and 434.
- 2.6 No Federal Employees. PARTIES except BLM, USFS, and NPS agree that any of their employees, volunteers, and program participants shall not be deemed to be Federal employees for any purposes including Chapter 171 of Title 28, United States Code (Federal Tort Claims Act) and Chapter 81 of Title 5, United States Code (OWCP), as PARTIES hereby willingly agrees to assume these responsibilities. PARTIES shall provide any necessary training to their employees, volunteers, and program participants to ensure that such personnel are capable of performing tasks to be completed. PARTIES shall also supervise and direct the work of their employees, volunteers, and participants performing under this MOU.
- 2.7 Eligible Workers. PARTIES shall ensure that all employees complete the 1-9 form to certify that they are eligible for lawful employment under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 USC 1324a). PARTIES shall comply with regulations regarding certification and retention of the completed forms. These requirements also apply to any contract awarded under this MOU.

2.8 Nondiscrimination. PARTIES will not discriminate in programs and activities pursuant to this MOU on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program.

2.9 Access. PARTIES may be granted access to USFS facilities and/or computer systems to accomplish work performed pursuant to this MOU. All non-federal-government employees with unescorted access to USFS facilities and computer systems must have background checks following the procedures established by USDA Directives 3800 series. Those granted computer access must fulfill all USFS requirements for mandatory security awareness and role-based advanced security training, and sign all applicable USFS statements of responsibilities.

2.10 Use for Government Property. PARTIES may only use property furnished by another PARTY to this MOU for performing tasks assigned in this MOU. PARTIES shall not modify, cannibalize, or make alterations to such property. A separate document, Form AD-107, must be completed to document the loan of USFS property. Each PARTY shall retain title to all of its furnished property.

2.11 Liability for Government Property. PARTIES shall take all reasonable actions necessary to protect property from further loss, damage, destruction, or theft. PARTIES shall separate the damaged and undamaged property and place all the affected property in the best possible order. PARTIES shall do nothing to prejudice a PARTY's rights to recover against third parties for any loss, damage, destruction, or theft of property. PARTIES shall not be liable for loss, damage, destruction, or theft of property furnished or acquired under this MOU, except when any one of the following applies:

- a. The risk is covered by insurance or PARTY is otherwise reimbursed (to the extent of such insurance or reimbursement).
- b. The loss, damage, destruction, or theft is the result of willful misconduct or lack of good faith on the part of PARTY's managerial personnel. PARTY's managerial personnel, in this provision, means PARTY's directors, officers, managers, superintendents, or equivalent representatives who have supervision or direction of all or substantially all of PARTY's activities; all or substantially all of PARTY's operation at any one plant or separate location; or a separate and complete major industrial operation.

2.12 Particular Responsibilities of the ESCOG. ESCOG will endeavor, upon approval and/or direction by its Board and the Boards of its four member agencies, to leverage its position as a regional entity to pursue funding opportunities that may not be accessible to other PARTIES whose jurisdiction is limited to one specific national park, national forest, county, city, town, etc. ESCOG will also attempt to pursue funding opportunities that are related to the SREMP or any future programs that may be authorized by the ESCOG Board and all member agencies.

### 3. ADDITIONAL COMMITMENTS BY PARTIES

In addition to the foregoing responsibilities undertaken by all PARTIES, the individual PARTIES undertake the following commitments in furtherance of the ESSRP goals and the purposes of this MOU: [placeholder for Parties to include commitments to each other]

#### 4. CONTENT REVIEW AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PARTIES will coordinate on any publications, electronic media, and other public content developed as a result of this MOU.

- 4.1 Acknowledgment. PARTIES will acknowledge other PARTIES' support in any publications, audio, visual, and electronic media developed as a result of this MOU.
- 4.2 Permission. PARTIES will obtain permission from other PARTIES for use of any logos and insignia on any published materials and media, such as Web pages, printed publications, or audio, visual, or electronic production.
- 4.3 Review & Approval. Submit materials that are intended for public distribution and that refer to other PARTIES, or to the Partnership or associated agreements, to the other PARTIES for advance review and approval to ensure information is accurate, does not commit any PARTY to an inappropriate action or funding, and does not lead to false expectations or misrepresents another PARTY.
  - 4.3.1 Exemptions from Advance Review. Materials that require advance review and approval include, but are not limited to: Donation solicitation materials, website information, press releases, and brochures where the material references the relationship. Internal communications within the PARTIES are not subject to this review.
  - 4.3.2 Standard Language. The PARTIES may develop standard language that does not require approval beyond the initial approval. Where standard language has not been developed, the PARTIES will use best efforts to review, approve, or deny such materials within 5 business days of receipt. Each PARTY agrees that failure on its part to meet the 5-day target will serve as an automatic approval of that proposed language.

#### 5. PUBLIC RECORDS & RETENTION.

- 5.1 Public Records. PARTIES acknowledge that records shared with other PARTIES pursuant to this MOU may be subject to disclosure by another PARTY pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), California Public Records Act (PRA), or local public records laws. Tribal or culturally sensitive information, and other records, may be exempt pursuant to the applicable law.
- 5.2 Retention. PARTIES shall retain all records pertinent to this MOU for a period of no less than 3 years from the expiration or termination date. As used in this provision, records includes books, documents, accounting procedures and practice, and other data, regardless of the type or format. PARTIES shall provide each other access and the right to examine all records related to this MOU. The rights of access in this section must not be limited to the required retention period but must last as long as the records are kept. If any litigation, claim, negotiation, audit, or other action involving the records has been started before the end of the 3-year period, the records must be kept until all issues are resolved, or until the end of the regular 3-year period, whichever is later.

#### 6. TERMS

6.1 Non-Binding. The PARTIES agree to work in good faith to fulfill the objectives of this MOU. Nothing in this MOU will be construed as obligating a PARTY to expend funds or create any legally binding or enforceable obligations on the part of any PARTY collaborating in the ESSRP.

6.2 Modifications. Modifications to this MOU must be made by mutual consent of the PARTIES by the issuance of a written modification signed and dated by all PARTIES. Requests for modification should be made in writing at least 30 days prior to the implementation of the requested change and become effective upon the last signature by any PARTY.

6.3 Entire Agreement. This MOU constitutes the entire understanding among the PARTIES with respect to the matters set forth herein and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous understandings or agreements among the PARTIES with respect to the subject matter hereof, whether oral or written.

6.4 Effective Date. This MOU shall become effective as of the date that Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mono County, and the United States Forest Service have all executed this MOU.

6.5 Termination. This MOU has no set termination date. Any PARTY may resign from this MOU without cause by providing at least 30 days written notice to the other PARTIES. PARTIES may terminate this MOU by written agreement.

6.6 Non-Fiduciary Relationship. It is expressly understood and agreed that the PARTIES' obligations hereunder are not fiduciary in nature.

6.7 Counterparts. This MOU may be executed simultaneously or in several counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

6.8 Authority. The PARTIES warrant and represent that they have the power and authority to enter into this MOU and the names, titles and capacities herein stated on behalf of any entities, persons, states or firms represented or purported to be represented by such entities, persons, states or firms and that all former requirements necessary or required by the state or federal law in order to enter into this MOU have been fully complied with.

6.9 Notices. All notices shall be sent to the points of contact included in Attachment A hereto.

6.10 Additional PARTIES. Additional PARTIES may join this MOU by executing a signature page for inclusion with Attachment A.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, this MOU has been entered into by and between the Parties set forth in Attachment A hereto.

Attachment A

**WORKING DRAFT**  
**SMRH 7.27.2021**

ATTACHMENT A

Signature Pages for Parties

[This is a template page]

[INSERT PARTY NAME, E.G. COUNTY OF ALPINE]

[Insert Party entity type, e.g. a political subdivision of the State of California]

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVAL AS TO FORM:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTICES SHALL BE SENT TO:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_



## STAFF REPORT

**To:** ESCOG Joint Powers Authority

**From:** Elaine Kabala, ESCOG Staff

**Subject:** Update on the Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative (SRTI)  
Eastern Sierra Recreation Partnership (ESSRP)

**Meeting date:** August 13, 2021

**Prepared on:** August 6, 2021

**Attachments:**  
A) National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Grant Application –  
“Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative”

---

### **BACKGROUND/HISTORY:**

On March 7, 2019, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC)’s Governing Board authorized \$618,750 of Proposition 68 funds for the “The Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership: Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative” to benefit the SNC’s Eastern sub-region. The Governing Board’s action demonstrated a pioneering commitment to California’s rural outdoor recreation economy and the natural resources that make it possible. The SRTI includes four tracks: 1) Regional Recreation and Stakeholder Engagement, 2) Climate Adaption and Resilience Assessment, 3) Connection to the Eastern Sierra, and 4) Project Prioritization and Implementation Plan. Under the Project Prioritization and Implementation Plan, the SRTI team is working with the Recreation Partners to identify funding opportunities and provide technical assistance for grant writing for the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP) Investment Prospectus, with the primary intent of aligning projects with the best available funding sources for implementation.

In late July, ESCOG staff identified a new and innovative funding opportunity through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) (with funding provided by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power) requiring application submission on August 5, 2021. The funding opportunity was directed towards specific projects with recommended funding amounts within the Owens River watershed: all projects were for fuel treatments in the Eastern Sierra, with the exception of certain recreation improvements in Buttermilk. Due to limited ESCOG staff capacity to prepare an application in the short application window, ESCOG staff collaborated with the SRTI

team to prepare a grant proposal to address the infrastructure improvements identified in the NFWF guidelines, and expanded the scope of work to include conceptual recreation planning for the Buttermilk bouldering area and environs, to be known as the “Buttermilk Infrastructure Recreation Planning Initiative” (BIRPI).

The SRTI team determined the BIRPI fit within the parameters of the ESSRP Investment Prospectus that the Partners have been developing to determine final projects for implementation, and is supported by 14 of the submitted project ideas within the Recreation Stakeholder Project Ideas inventory.

The project is consistent with the ESCOG approved Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program (SREMP), which empowers the ESCOG to apply for, pursue, and administer grants consistent with the programs goals to integrate responsible ecosystem management, natural resources conservation, sustainable outdoor recreation, and economic development.

Staff submitted the attached NFWF grant application on behalf of the ESCOG on August 5<sup>th</sup>, requesting \$181,500 for implementation of the BIRPI, described in further detail below and in Attachment A: NFWF – “Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative”.

#### **ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION:**

The BIRPI will deploy recreation infrastructure improvements and focused recreation planning in the Buttermilk Bouldering Area as well as long-term conceptual recreation planning in the Buttermilk Project Area within the Eastern Sierra’s Buttermilk subregion, a sensitive high desert ecosystem in the headwaters of the Owens watershed, which also supplies water to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). Outcomes of the BIRPI will harden and enhance the resilience of the Owens watershed to the effects of human activity, outdoor recreation, and climate change with the implementation of sustainable outdoor recreation programs and infrastructure through the aligned, cross jurisdictional, and collaborative working relationships of citizen stakeholders, public agencies, and tribes, including Inyo National Forest, the LADWP, the Bureau of Land Management, Inyo County, the City of Bishop, and the Bishop Paiute Tribe.

Immediate recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk Bouldering Area will include the replacement and/or installation of toilets to address the needs of human sanitation. A focused collaborative and stakeholder driven planning effort will identify opportunities to mitigate the impacts of human activity on natural resources through formalized system trails, signage and kiosks, and soft surface parking. Conceptual recreation planning in the Buttermilk Project Area will focus on the interconnected nature of recreation activities within the Owens watershed and the identification of needs and gaps for future recreation infrastructure improvements. The conceptual planning effort will be a stakeholder driven collaborative effort, including data collection to document informal/unofficial recreation impacts such as use trails, roads, and unofficial parking opportunities. Desired project outcomes – to enhance the resilience of

natural resources in the Owens watershed to the effects of human activity, outdoor recreation, and climate change through the implementation of sustainable outdoor recreation programs and infrastructure – will be achievable through aligned partnerships and a decade’s worth of collaborative investment by the Inyo National Forest, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Inyo County, the City of Bishop, the Bishop Paiute Tribe, and the dedicated, responsible advocacy of organizations like the Access Fund and the Bishop Climbers Coalition.

**BUDGET IMPACTS:**

There are no budget impacts associated with this item.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

ESCOG Counsel Grace Chuchla has reviewed this item and found that it complies with the law.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Board receive an update on the activities of the SRTI.



## Attachment A

EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – California Forests: Headwater Resilience 2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

### Grant Information

#### Title of Project

Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

<b>Total Amount Requested</b>	\$ 181,500.00
<b>Matching Contributions Proposed</b>	\$221,000.00
<b>Proposed Grant Period</b>	04/15/ 2022 - 10/31/ 2023

#### Project Description

The Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) will deploy recreation infrastructure improvements and focused recreation planning in the Buttermilk Bouldering Area as well as long-term conceptual recreation planning in the Buttermilk Project Area within the Eastern Sierra's Buttermilk subregion, a sensitive high desert ecosystem in the headwaters of the Owens watershed, which also supplies water to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). Outcomes of the BIRPI will harden and enhance the resilience of the Owens watershed to the effects of human activity, outdoor recreation, and climate change with the implementation of sustainable outdoor recreation programs and infrastructure through the aligned, cross jurisdictional, and collaborative working relationships of citizen stakeholders, public agencies, and tribes, including Inyo National Forest, the LADWP, the Bureau of Land Management, Inyo County, the City of Bishop, and the Bishop Paiute Tribe.

#### Project Abstract

Immediate recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk Bouldering Area will include the replacement and/or installation of toilets to address the needs of human sanitation. A focused collaborative and stakeholder driven planning effort will identify opportunities to mitigate the impacts of human activity on natural resources through formalized system trails, signage and kiosks, and soft surface parking. Conceptual recreation planning in the Buttermilk Project Area will focus on the interconnected nature of recreation activities within the Owens watershed and the identification of needs and gaps for future recreation infrastructure improvements. The conceptual planning effort will be a stakeholder driven collaborative effort, including data collection to document informal/unofficial recreation impacts such as use trails, roads, and unofficial parking opportunities. Desired project outcomes - to enhance the resilience of natural resources in the Owens watershed to the effects of human activity, outdoor recreation, and climate change through the implementation of sustainable outdoor recreation programs and infrastructure – will be achievable through aligned partnerships and a decade's worth of collaborative investment by the Inyo National Forest, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Inyo County, the City of Bishop, the Bishop Paiute Tribe, and the dedicated, responsible advocacy of organizations like the Access Fund and the Bishop Climbers Coalition.

#### Organization and Primary Contact Information

Organization	Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)
Organization Type	State or Local Government
City, State, Country	„



## Attachment A

EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – California Forests: Headwater Resilience 2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

Region (if international)

**Primary Contact**

Position/Title

Phone and E-mail

Elaine Kabala

x ; ekabala@escog.ca.gov

**Additional Contacts**

Role	Name
Other Authorized Personnel	Elaine Kabala



## Attachment A

EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – California Forests: Headwater Resilience 2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

### Project Location Information

Project Location Description	The 44.5 square mile Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) Project Area is in Inyo County CA just west of the city of Bishop. The project area is made up of Inyo National Forest, Bureau of Land Management, and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power managed lands.
Project Country(ies)	North America - United States
Project State(s)	California
Project Congressional District(s)	District 8 (CA)

### Permits and Approvals

Permits/Approvals Description:	RESOLUTION NO. 20-03  RESOLUTION OF THE EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM OF WORK TO BE KNOWN AS THE "ESCOG: SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROGRAM" AND TO SEEK APPROVAL FROM MEMBER AGENCIES FOR THIS WORK  APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 16th day of October 2020
Permits/Approvals Status:	Completed
Permits/Approvals Agency-Contact Person:	Angela Plaisted, Town of Mammoth Lakes
Permits/Approvals Submittal-Approval Date:	10/16/2020
Permits/Approvals Description:	DECISION NOTICE & FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT BUTTERMILK TOILET U.S. FOREST SERVICE WHITE MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT INYO COUNTY CA



## Attachment A

EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – California Forests: Headwater Resilience 2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

Permits/Approvals Status:	Completed
Permits/Approvals Agency-Contact Person:	Lesley Yen, White Mountain Ranger District
Permits/Approvals Submittal-Approval Date:	06/07/2013
Permits/Approvals Description:	NOTICE OF A JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT for the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments
Permits/Approvals Status:	Completed
Permits/Approvals Agency-Contact Person:	Jeff Griffiths, ESCOG
Permits/Approvals Submittal-Approval Date:	01/07/2020



EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – California Forests: Headwater Resilience 2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

## Activities and Outcomes

### **Funding Strategy: Habitat Management**

Metric: CA - Green Infrastructure - miles trails developed/improved

Required: Recommended

Description: Enter the number of miles of trails developed or improved

<b>Starting Value</b>	0.00 miles trails developed/improved
<b>Target value</b>	1.50 miles trails developed/improved

Note:

### **Funding Strategy: Habitat Management**

Metric: CA - Improved management practices - Acres under improved management

Required: Recommended

Description: Enter the number of acres treated with limbing / thinning / removal of vegetation. Treatment of areas that are impacted by disease or insect infestation should be captured under "Removal of infected individuals - Acres restored" instead.

<b>Starting Value</b>	0.00 Acres under improved management
<b>Target value</b>	35.00 Acres under improved management

Note:

### **Funding Strategy: Capacity, Outreach, Incentives**

Metric: CA - Outreach/ Education/ Technical Assistance - # people reached

Required: Recommended

Description: Enter the number of people reached by outreach, training, or technical assistance activities

<b>Starting Value</b>	0.00 # people reached
<b>Target value</b>	2000.00 # people reached

Note:

### **Funding Strategy: Planning, Research, Monitoring**

Metric: CA - Research - Acres assessed



## Attachment A

EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – California Forests: Headwater Resilience 2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

Required: Recommended

Description: Enter the number of acres assessed

<b>Starting Value</b>	0.00 Acres assessed
<b>Target value</b>	28500.00 Acres assessed

Note:

**Funding Strategy: Capacity, Outreach, Incentives**

Metric: CA - Volunteer participation - # volunteers participating

Required: Recommended

Description: Enter the number of volunteers participating in projects

<b>Starting Value</b>	5.00 # volunteers participating
<b>Target value</b>	50.00 # volunteers participating

Note:



## Attachment A

EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation –

California Forests: Headwater Resilience

2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

<b>I. PERSONNEL</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
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Staff Name	Position	Annual Salary	Project Hours	Hourly Rate	LOE (%)	Project Salary	% Fringe	\$ Fringe	Total Personnel

Totals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
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<b>II. TRAVEL</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
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### Domestic Airfare – Per Flight

Purpose/Destination	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal			\$0.00
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### International Airfare – Per Flight

Purpose/Destination	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal			\$0.00
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### Train – Per Ticket

Purpose/Destination	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal			\$0.00
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## Attachment A

EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation –

California Forests: Headwater Resilience

2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

### Rental Car – Per Day

Purpose/Destination	Days/Duration	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal \$0.00

### Taxis – Per Trip

Purpose/Destination	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal \$0.00

### Mileage – Per Mile

Purpose/Destination	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal \$0.00

### Gasoline – Per Gallon

Purpose/Destination	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal \$0.00

### Per Diem (M&IE) – Per Day

Purpose/Destination	Days/Duration	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal \$0.00



## Attachment A

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National Fish and Wildlife Foundation –

California Forests: Headwater Resilience

2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

### Lodging – Per Night

Purpose/Destination	Days/Duration	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal \$0.00

### Meals (no M&IE) – Per Meal

Purpose/Destination	Days/Duration	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

SubTotal \$0.00

### III. EQUIPMENT \$0.00

Item Name	Description	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

### IV. MATERIALS & SUPPLIES \$0.00

Type	Purpose	Unit of Measure	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

### V. CONTRACTUAL SERVICES \$181,500.00

#### Subcontract/Contract – Per Agreement

Contractor Name	Description	Total Cost
Elaine Kabala	Contracted Staff for ESCOG Administrative Services	\$16,500.00
TBD	Toilet Infrastructure	\$17,500.00
TBD	Conceptual Planning: Trails, Signage, Parking	\$20,000.00



## Attachment A

EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation –  
California Forests: Headwater Resilience  
2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA  
Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

TBD	Enviromental Analysis + Decision: Trails, Signage,	\$7,500.00
TBD	Trail Implementation	\$5,000.00
TBD	Signage and Kiosk Implementation	\$15,000.00
TBD	Parking Implementation	\$25,000.00
TBD	Conceptual Recreation Planning for Subregion	\$75,000.00

**SubTotal** **\$181,500.00**

### Subgrant – Per Agreement

Subrecipient	Description	Total Cost

**SubTotal** **\$0.00**

<b>VI. OTHER DIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
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Type	Purpose	Unit of Measure	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost

<b>VII. TOTAL DIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>\$181,500.00</b>
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<b>VIII. INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
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Explanation of Modified Total Direct Cost Base(MTDC)	Rate Type	NICRA Expiration	\$MTDC	Rate(%)	Total Cost

<b>IX. TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>\$181,500.00</b>
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## Attachment A

EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation –  
California Forests: Headwater Resilience  
2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA  
Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)



## Attachment A

EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation –

California Forests: Headwater Resilience

2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

### Budget Narrative

#### Budget Narrative:

##### 1. Personnel

Personnel -

##### 2. Travel

Domestic Airfare - Per Flight -

International Airfare - Per Flight -

Train - Per Ticket -

Rental Car - Per Day -

Taxis - Per Trip -

Mileage - Per Mile -

Gasoline - Per Gallon -

Per Diem (M&IE) - Per Day -

Lodging - Per Night -

Meals (No M&IE) - Per Meal -

##### 3. Equipment

1133 15th Street, NW  
Suite 1100 Washington, DC 20005

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Version 1.1



Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

Equipment -

#### 4. Materials and Supplies

Materials and Supplies -

#### 5. Contractual Services

Subcontract/Contract - Per Agreement -

Contracted Staff for ESCOG Administrative Services

Administrative services for grants awarded to the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) are provided via contract. Elaine Kabala is currently under contract to the ESCOG, and her scope of work includes the following: "Grant writing services consisting of: a. Identification, research, and reporting of State, Federal and non-profit grant opportunities that align with ESCOG goals and priorities; b. Grant coordination activities that may be required to qualify for various grants, such as public outreach, noticing or other requirements; c. Grant writing and submission; d. Coordination with each jurisdiction of the ESCOG if required; e. Grant management and administration upon award." Administration and management of this grant should it be awarded is estimated at 275 hours.

Toilet Infrastructure

ESCOG will use its procurement process to identify an appropriate contractor to replace and install 2 toilets in the Buttermilk Bouldering Area to address the needs of human sanitation as identified by the existing USFS environmental document "Buttermilks toilet EA (2011)". The cost estimate is based on USFS costs estimates for installation and/or replacements of toilet in 2011 at \$8,300 per unit. Total costs estimate for 2 units @ \$17,500 include adjustments for inflation.

Conceptual Planning: Trails, Signage, Parking



Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

ESCOG will use its procurement process to identify an appropriate contractor to convene stakeholders, facilitate, and then document the results of a planning effort to mitigate the impacts of human activity by identifying the opportunities for system trails, signage and kiosks, and soft surface parking in the Buttermilk Bouldering Area. Cost estimate of \$20,000 is based on analogous efforts in the region including the Collaborative Alternative Team (CAT) which was engaged for the successful Inyo National Forest Travel Management Decision (2009) and the Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative (ESRC) which was focused on Inyo National Forest Management Planning in 2014 - 2016 and was supported by a grant from the National Forest Foundation (NFF).

#### Environmental Analysis + Decision: Trails, Signage, Parking

ESCOG will use its procurement process to identify an appropriate contractor to conduct field studies as may be required by the relevant decision makers for environmental decisions (NEPA or CEQA) to implement actions based on the documented results of the "Conceptual Planning: Trails, Signage, Parking" effort identified in this application. Cost estimate of \$7,500 is a placeholder based on assumptions that the "Conceptual Planning: Trails, Signage, Parking" will not identify any actions requiring additional environmental analysis. RFQ/RFP will not be issued and funds will not be spent if no additional environmental analysis is required.

#### Trail Implementation

ESCOG will use its procurement process to identify an appropriate contractor to implement trail delineation and construction projects to mitigate unofficial human activities as recommended by the "Conceptual Planning: Trails, Signage, Parking" effort and supported by appropriate environmental decisions as issued by the relevant land management agencies in the Buttermilk Bouldering Area. Cost estimate of \$5,000 is based on analogous regional efforts and the identification of existing use trails by the Access Fund, Bishop Climbers Coalition, and the Climbing Rangers Program. Substantial volunteer participation in this effort is anticipated.

#### Signage Implementation

ESCOG will use its procurement process to identify an appropriate contractor to implement signage and kiosk implementation and construction projects to mitigate unofficial human activities as recommended by the "Conceptual Planning: Trails, Signage, Parking" effort and supported by appropriate environmental decisions as issued by the relevant land management agencies in the Buttermilk Bouldering Area. Cost estimate of \$15,000 is based on analogous regional efforts including existing signing



Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

efforts on site and the soft surface signage program of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System. Substantial volunteer participation in this effort is anticipated.

#### Parking Implementation

ESCOG will use its procurement process to identify an appropriate contractor to mitigate unofficial human activities by implementing soft surface parking solutions as recommended by the "Conceptual Planning: Trails, Signage, Parking" effort and supported by appropriate environmental decisions as issued by the relevant land management agencies in the Buttermilk Bouldering Area. Cost estimate of \$25,000 is based on analogous regional efforts.

#### Conceptual Recreation Planning for Buttermilk Project Area

ESCOG will use its procurement process to identify an appropriate contractor to document current conditions (official and unofficial), convene stakeholders, facilitate, and then document the results of a conceptual recreation planning effort in the Buttermilk Project Area that will identify projects to mitigate and support human recreation activities that will protect valuable watersheds and conserve precious natural resources. Scope of work will include: Data collection and development of informal and unofficial recreation impacts using GIS systems (use trails, unofficial parking, etc); inclusion of corporate GIS data including watershed and relevant recreation infrastructure from relevant land management agencies and authorities; mapping of all developed GIS data for use with stakeholder efforts; convening and professional facilitation of willing stakeholders including participation by relevant land management agencies; documentation of conceptual recommendations in a final report available both as a PDF document and an online/web based presence. Cost estimate of \$75,000 is based on analogous efforts in the region including the Collaborative Alternative Team (CAT) which was engaged for the successful Inyo National Forest Travel Management Decision (2009); the Sherwins Working Group and its award winning Sherwins Area Recreation Plan (SHARP) in Mammoth Lakes (2009); the Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative (ESRC) which was focused on Inyo National Forest Management Planning and was supported by a grant from the National Forest Foundation (2014 - 2016)); and the "Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative: Regional Recreation Stakeholder Engagement" (2019-2021)

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Subgrant - Per Agreement -

## 6. Other Direct Costs



## Attachment A

EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation –  
California Forests: Headwater Resilience  
2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA  
Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

Other Direct Costs -

### 7. Indirect Costs

Indirect Costs -



## Attachment A

EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – California Forests: Headwater Resilience 2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

### Matching Contributions

<b>Matching Contribution Amount:</b>	\$161,000.00
<b>Type:</b>	In-kind
<b>Status:</b>	Received
<b>Source:</b>	State of California / Sierra Nevada Conservancy
<b>Source Type:</b>	Non-Federal
<b>Description:</b>	The Eastern Sierra depends on ecosystems for its recreation-based economy. Climate change is a threat due to increased natural hazards. "A Changing Climate   Vulnerability in California's Eastern Sierra" documents these threats.

<b>Matching Contribution Amount:</b>	\$60,000.00
<b>Type:</b>	In-kind
<b>Status:</b>	Received
<b>Source:</b>	State of California / Sierra Nevada Conservancy
<b>Source Type:</b>	Non-Federal
<b>Description:</b>	An 18-month regional effort to identify sustainable recreation project ideas yielded 183 results, along with the public's desirability scores for stewardship, access, and community benefit. Funded by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

<b>Total Amount of Matching Contributions:</b>	\$221,000.00
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# NFWF

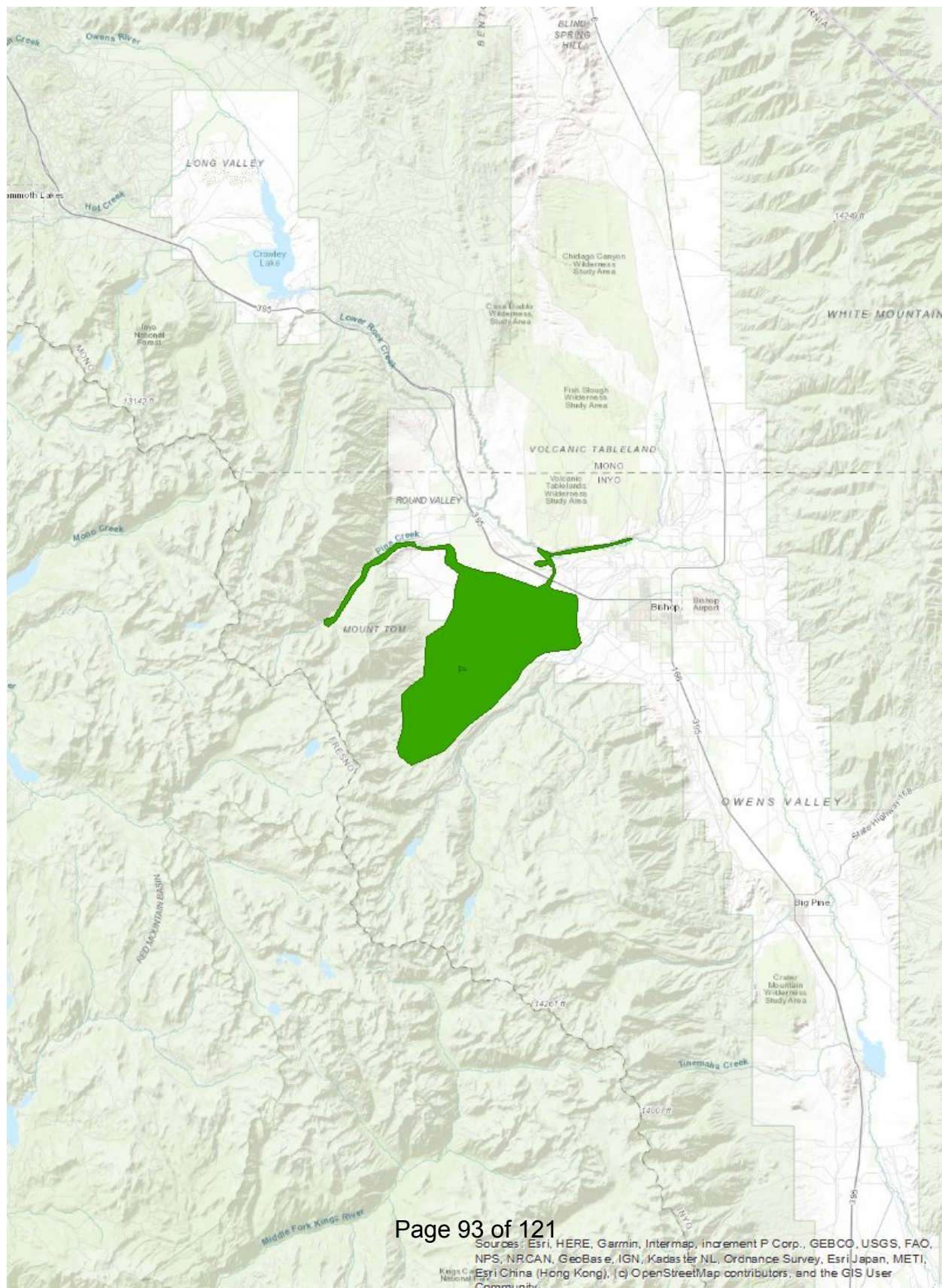
## Attachment A

EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – California Forests: Headwater Resilience 2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)





## Attachment A

EasyGrantsID: 73712

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – California Forests: Headwater Resilience 2021, Full Proposal

Title: Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) - CA

Organization: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)

The following pages contain the uploaded documents, in the order shown below, as provided by the applicant:

Upload Type	File Name	Uploaded By	Uploaded Date
Full Proposal Narrative	705_03_Buttermilk_FullProposalNarrative_210804_01_FINAL (1).docx	Kabala, Elaine	08/04/2021
Project Map	705_BIRPI_PA_210802.pdf	Kabala, Elaine	08/03/2021
Letters of Support	705_03~3.PDF	Kabala, Elaine	08/05/2021
Statement of Litigation	ESCOG_Buttermilks_Statement+of+Litigation_01.pdf	Kabala, Elaine	08/03/2021
Board of Trustees, Directors, or equivalent	0346_001.pdf	Kabala, Elaine	08/03/2021
Applicant Controls Questionnaire	0354_001.pdf	Kabala, Elaine	08/03/2021
Other Documents	Attachment A ESCOG Financial Summary v2.pdf	Kabala, Elaine	08/03/2021

The following uploads do not have the same headers and footers as the previous sections of this document in order to preserve the integrity of the actual files uploaded.



### Full Proposal Project Narrative

**Instructions:** Save this document on your computer and complete the narrative in the format provided. The final narrative should not exceed six (6) pages; do not delete the text provided below. Once complete, upload this document into the on-line application as instructed.

1. **Activities:** Elaborate on the primary activities that will be employed through the grant. Explain how these activities are expected to lead to the outcome(s). Describe how these activities relate to established plans (management, conservation, recovery, etc.) and priority conservation needs in the specific project location.

#### What are the primary activities that will be employed through the grant?

The Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI) will address the need for immediate recreation planning and infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk Bouldering Area as well as long-term conceptual recreation planning in the Buttermilk Project Area, both of which reside within the Eastern Sierra's Buttermilk subregion, a sensitive high desert ecosystem in the headwaters of the Owens watershed, which supplies water to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) and millions of Los Angeles residents and ratepayers in the LADWP service area.

Immediate recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk Bouldering Area will be informed by an Environmental Assessment conducted by the Inyo National Forest in 2011 ("Environmental Assessment, Buttermilk Toilet Construction Project, USDA Forest Service White Mountain Ranger District, Inyo National Forest, Inyo County, CA"). Immediate improvements will include the replacement and/or installation of toilets to address the needs of human sanitation. A focused collaborative and stakeholder driven planning effort will identify opportunities to mitigate the impacts of human activity on natural resources through formalized system trails, signage and kiosks, and soft surface parking. The appropriate and legally required environmental analysis and decisions will inform the subsequent implementation of the trails, signage and kiosks, and soft surface parking solutions identified by the planning effort.

Conceptual recreation planning in the Buttermilk Project Area – which includes the Buttermilk Bouldering Area, Horton Lakes trailhead, the Tungsten Hills, the Happy and Sad boulders, Pine Creek Canyon, two Bureau of Land Management campgrounds, and two Inyo County campgrounds – will focus on the interconnected nature of recreation activities in the Project Area and the documentation of needs and gaps for future recreation infrastructure improvements. The conceptual planning effort will be a stakeholder driven collaborative effort, including GIS data collection to document informal/unofficial recreation impacts such as use trails, roads, and unofficial parking opportunities; inclusion of corporate GIS datasets from relevant land management agencies and authorities including watershed and existing recreation infrastructure; mapping of all developed GIS data for use with a collaborative stakeholder driven planning process; convening of willing stakeholders at professionally facilitated public meetings including participation by relevant land management agencies; and documentation of the conceptual recommendations in a final report available both as a document and an online presence such as a GIS Storymap.

#### How will the primary activities lead to the outcome?

## Attachment A

The desired outcomes of the BIRPI are to harden and enhance the resilience of natural resources in the Owens watershed to the effects of human activity, outdoor recreation, and climate change through the implementation of sustainable outdoor recreation programs and infrastructure. These outcomes will only be possible through aligned, cross jurisdictional, and collaborative working relationships between citizen stakeholders, public agencies, and tribes which for the BIRPI include the Inyo National Forest, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, the Bureau of Land Management, Inyo County, the City of Bishop, and the Bishop Paiute Tribe. Aligned and functional working relationships are the operational definition of sustainable recreation as defined by the U.S Forest Service (“Connecting People with America’s Great Outdoors: A Framework for Sustainable Recreation, 2012”). The primary activities identified in this application will address specific and identified needs in the Buttermilk Bouldering Area, a highly desired recreation destination: human sanitation; formalize a network of use trails into the Inyo National Forest’s trail system allowing for citizen stewardship and maintenance efforts; implement a system of wayfinding signage and interpretive kiosks to inform recreationists on appropriate use and etiquette; and implement ancillary solutions such as soft surface parking, and all through a collaborative planning effort. Conceptual recreation planning will look beyond the immediate geography of the Buttermilk Bouldering Area to the larger Buttermilk Project Area and initiate the identification of the existing conditions that are compromising natural resources within the watershed. The effort will then convene and professionally facilitate stakeholders and document the results of their efforts as a conceptual recreation plan for the Buttermilk Project Area that identifies future projects to mitigate and support human recreation activities while protecting valuable watersheds and conserving precious natural resources.

### **How do the primary activities relate to established plans (management, conservation, recovery, etc.) and priority conservation needs in the specific project location?**

The 2011 Environmental Assessment for the installation of two toilets at the BIRPI Bouldering Area (“Environmental Assessment, Buttermilk Toilet Construction Project, USDA Forest Service White Mountain Ranger District, Inyo National Forest, Inyo County, CA”) is a specific environmental planning document that will guide the replacement of the existing toilet infrastructure. In 2017, Climbing Rangers supported by the Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association (ESIA) prepared a GIS dataset of trails used to access the Buttermilk boulders. The Rangers note many zones with severe social braiding and erosion. Planning and implementation of a formalized trail system will build from this dataset, which demonstrates how impacts have changed since 2017, and will protect the natural resources of the BIRPI Bouldering Area that are most impacted by users. The primary activities of this funding application will be to mitigate the effects of inadequate infrastructure and programming for outdoor recreation in the Buttermilk Bouldering Area.

The “Land Management Plan for the Inyo National Forest (2019)”, an “early adopter” U.S Forest Service management planning effort using the 2012 Planning Rule and the authoritative land management plan for the Buttermilk subregion which includes both the BIRPI Project Area and the BIRPI Bouldering Area, offers detailed “Desired Conditions” for “Destination Recreation Area(s)” which have “.... high levels of recreation, supported by more facilities, amenities, and services than other areas...” including:

- 01 The developed area footprint within destination recreation areas is visually appealing and well maintained.
- 02 A natural appearing landscape is retained outside the development footprint.
- 03 Most recreation facilities are highly developed and in close proximity to each other.
- 04 Developed sites meet national quality standards.
- 05 Forest roads and trails provide users relatively easy access to destinations.
- 06 The setting provides amenities and sustainable infrastructure to support a wide variety of recreational activities in close proximity to each other.
- 07 Available infrastructure and amenities are consistent with user capacity.

## Attachment A

- 08 Interpretation and education activities provide learning opportunities to visitors about the natural and cultural environment and responsible visitor behavior.
- 09 Traffic and parking does not negatively impact visitor experience.

The Inyo Land Management Plan also offers “Potential Management Approaches” for a “Destination Recreation Area” as follows:

- Changes in visitor use levels, patterns of use, or the necessity to protect resources may result in more infrastructure, heavier maintenance, or more controls such as setting capacity limits.
- Consider the future implications of additional infrastructure or development accommodating recreation use in areas adjacent to or within the developed area.
- Consider accommodating additional recreation special use authorizations or partnership agreements to support providing quality recreation experiences, visitor services, and interpretation and education.

In recent years, the Eastern Sierra has established a shared vision for sustainable recreation and tourism through the “Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP)” which is currently organized through a U.S. Forest Service agreement, and feature a monthly 90 minute information sharing meeting regularly attended by the region’s public agencies: Alpine County, the City of Bishop, CALTRANS District 9, the Bureau of Land Management, Inyo County, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mono County, regional units of the National Park Service, the Inyo National Forest, Pacific Southwest Region (USFS Region 5), and the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Intermountain Region (USFS Region 4). The ESSRP has been supported by the “Sustainable Recreation & Tourism Initiative (SRTI)”, a California Proposition 68 funded grant of \$618,750 through the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC). The SRTI has collected over 200 “project ideas” for sustainable recreation efforts from regional stakeholders and members of the ESSRP, of which 26 directly reference the need for improved sustainable recreation opportunities and management in the BIRPI Project Area. The SRTI has also produced “A Changing Climate | Vulnerability in California’s Eastern Sierra” which includes an analysis and documentation of ecosystem services produced in the Eastern Sierra which average approximately \$100 billion annually, with the average annual value of water quality and regulation in the Eastern Sierra estimated at \$37.7 and \$9.9 billion, respectively. The monetary valuation of these ecosystem services will help to inspire investment in their maintenance and resilience for long term sustainability and nature-based solutions for climate change.

### **2. Outcome(s): Elaborate on the outcome(s) summarized previously in the application; discuss what makes this outcome(s) achievable and important.**

The desired project outcomes identified in this application - to harden and enhance the resilience of natural resources in the Owens watershed to the effects of human activity, outdoor recreation, and climate change through the implementation of sustainable outdoor recreation programs and infrastructure – are achievable due to a decade’s worth of collaborative investment by public agencies including the Inyo National Forest, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Inyo County, the City of Bishop, local tribes, and the dedicated, responsible advocacy of organizations like the Access Fund and the Bishop Climbers Coalition. These efforts have coalesced around the funding opportunity made possible by NFWF’s “2021 California Forests: Targeted Headwater Resilience Implementation and Monitoring” and the “Headwaters Protection and Improvements on the Inyo National Forest” program, along with the recent establishment of the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) as a Joint Powers Authority, and focused the political will of local agencies and engaged stakeholders for success. The identified primary activities to achieve the BIRPI’s desired outcomes are important because sustainable outdoor recreation and tourism in California’s Eastern Sierra are the region’s primary social, economic, and cultural drivers, connecting citizens of California, the United States, and the world to iconic

## Attachment A

destinations of the American public landscape. The Buttermilk subregion – emerging as one of these iconic destinations - has seen increasing numbers of visitors in recent years, straining existing recreation infrastructure while presenting opportunities to improve the visitor experience and conserve natural resource assets through engaged recreation management. The initiation of reliable commercial air service into the Eastern Sierra via the Bishop Airport and Inyo County in the Fall of 2021 will add additional visitors and additional pressures onto existing recreation infrastructure and most certainly onto the natural resources of the Owens watershed. Inspired by guidebooks with 5-star reviews and a compelling presence on social media, bouldering in the Buttermilk and the Bishop region has earned a well-deserved reputation as “...some of the best bouldering in the world.” The unrelenting popularity of similar recreation activities in the Buttermilk Project Area that surround the Buttermilk Bouldering Area - Pine Creek, the Tungsten Hills, the Happy and Sad Boulders, and the spectacular yet fragile natural resources that compel such enthusiastic visitation - will benefit from the recreation infrastructure improvements and conceptual recreation planning work proposed in this application.

3. **Tracking Metrics:** Indicate how the project will monitor/assess progress on the metrics selected previously in the application. Please note any challenges or limitations anticipated with tracking the metrics.

The following five metrics have been selected through the application process to monitor and track the success of the primary activities to be funded by this application:

### **CA - Green Infrastructure - miles trails developed/improved**

- The miles of trails developed and improved by the primary activities identified for funding in this application will be documented by the contractor identified through the ESCOG’s procurement process to oversee and complete this work as a contracted deliverable. Substantial volunteer participation in this effort is anticipated.

### **CA - Improved management practices - Acres under improved management**

- Acres to be placed under improved management by the primary activities identified for funding in this application will be documented by the contractors identified through the ESCOG’s procurement process to oversee and complete this work as contracted deliverables.

### **CA - Outreach/ Education/ Technical Assistance - # people reached**

- Efforts for public outreach, education, technical assistance and the number of people reached by the primary activities identified for funding in this application will be documented by the contractors identified through the ESCOG’s procurement process to oversee and complete this work as contracted deliverables.

### **CA - Research - Acres assessed**

- The total number of acres assessed by the primary activities identified for funding in this application will be documented by the contractors identified through the ESCOG’s procurement process to oversee and complete this work as contracted deliverables.

### **CA - Volunteer participation - # volunteers participating**

- The total number of volunteers and volunteer hours engaged by the primary activities identified for funding in this application will be documented by the contractors identified through the ESCOG’s procurement process to oversee and complete relevant work as contracted deliverables.

4. **Project Team:** List key individuals and describe their qualifications relevant for project implementation.

The Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) includes four member agencies - Inyo County, Mono County, the City of Bishop, and the Town of Mammoth Lakes – and was originally formed in 1995 under a Joint Powers Agreement. The governing board is comprised of two elected representatives from each of the four agencies. In January of 2020, the ESCOG established itself as a Joint Powers Authority (JPA), which includes the authority to “...contract or otherwise participate in, and to accept grants, funds or services from the State or Federal government, their agencies or instrumentalities or from any civic organization or private person (including but not limited to corporations) in

## Attachment A

connection with any program judged by the ESCOG Board to be relevant to its purposes, and upon approval of the governing bodies of the Member Agencies.” In October of 2020, the ESCOG approved by resolution the “ESCOG: Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program (SREMP)”, and by unanimous vote of the governing bodies of the four member agencies in January of 2021, the SREMP became the first authorized program of the ESCOG JPA. The October 2020 resolution establishing the SREMP includes the following directive language:

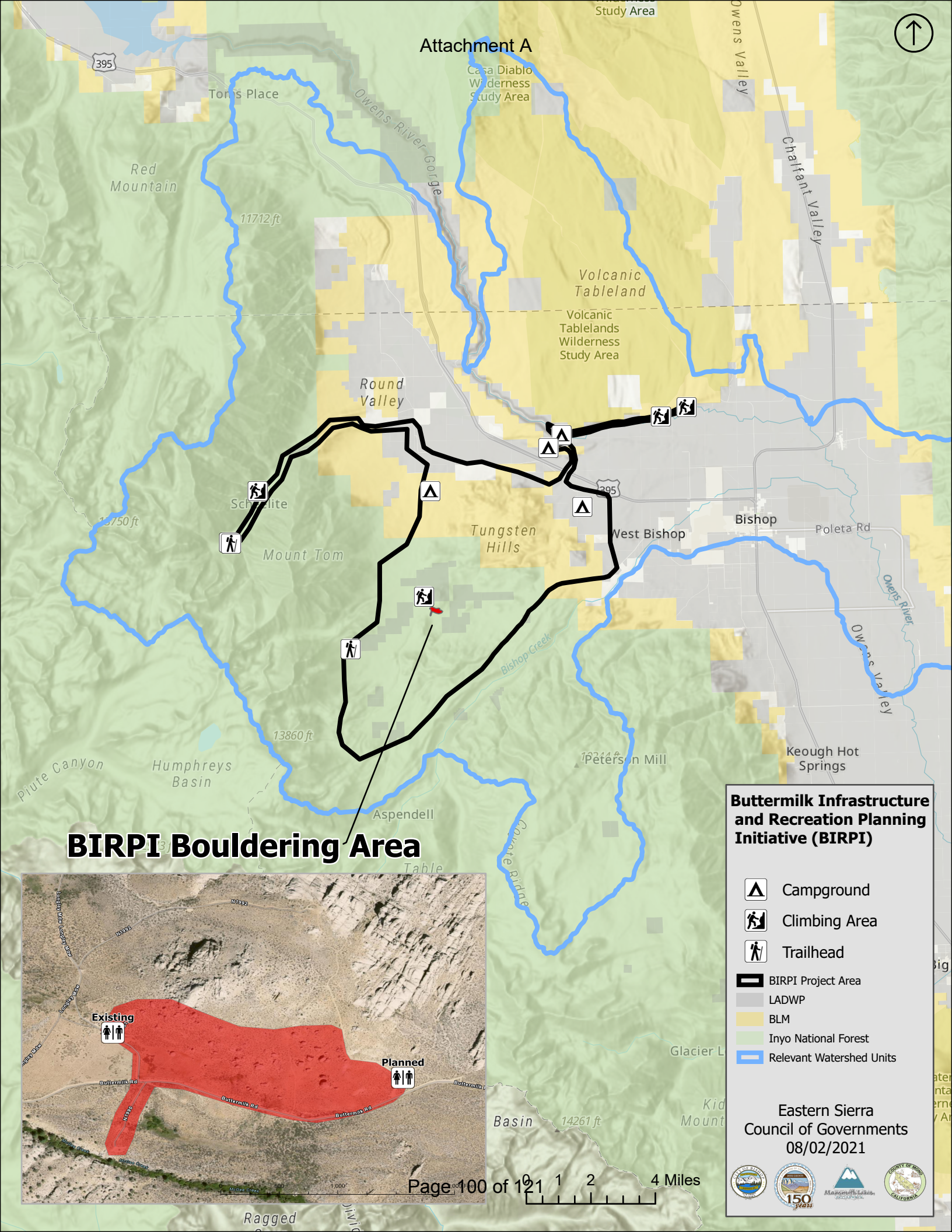
- That the ESCOG: Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program shall seek to integrate responsible Ecosystem Management, natural resources conservation, sustainable outdoor recreation, and economic development using the best available science and in such a way as to strengthen and inspire all communities in the Eastern Sierra in their pursuits of resilience and sustainability through the functional alignment of partner agencies in pursuit of identified projects.
- That, in carrying out these activities, the ESCOG: Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program shall be empowered to apply for, pursue, and administer grants and other sources of revenue from state, federal, private, ESCOG member agency, and civic sources to finance projects; retain contractors and hire staff; make recommendations about project feasibility and implementation; enter into long term contracts; engage in any actions already authorized by the ESCOG Joint Powers Agreement including the securing of appropriate levels of insurance; and take any other actions reasonably related to its pursuit of the above mentioned activities, provided, however, that the ESCOG Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program shall not be authorized to incur debt that is not otherwise secured by the Program's identified revenue.

The ESCOG’s procurement process that will contract for the primary activities identified in this funding application and will be responsible for the delivery contracted deliverables, is overseen by Elaine Kabala, a service provider currently serving as the ESCOG’s Executive Director, and Grace Chuchla, ESCOG legal counsel. Elaine Kabala is the Economic Development Coordinator and an Associate Planner with the City of Bishop and Grace Chuchla serves in the Inyo County office of legal counsel. They are currently processing a \$3.3 million dollar grant awarded to the ESCOG in June of 2021 by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to establish a regionally staffed environmental planning team for the “Eastern Sierra Pace & Scale Accelerator,” which aims to double environmental planning capacity in the Eastern Sierra. The first landscape scale forest restoration project funded by the CDFW grant will be on the Inyo National Forest. The “Eastern Sierra Climate & Communities Resilience Project”, a 55,000-acre forest restoration effort, is intended to protect the Town of Mammoth Lakes and the surrounding forest ecosystems from the effects of catastrophic wildfire.

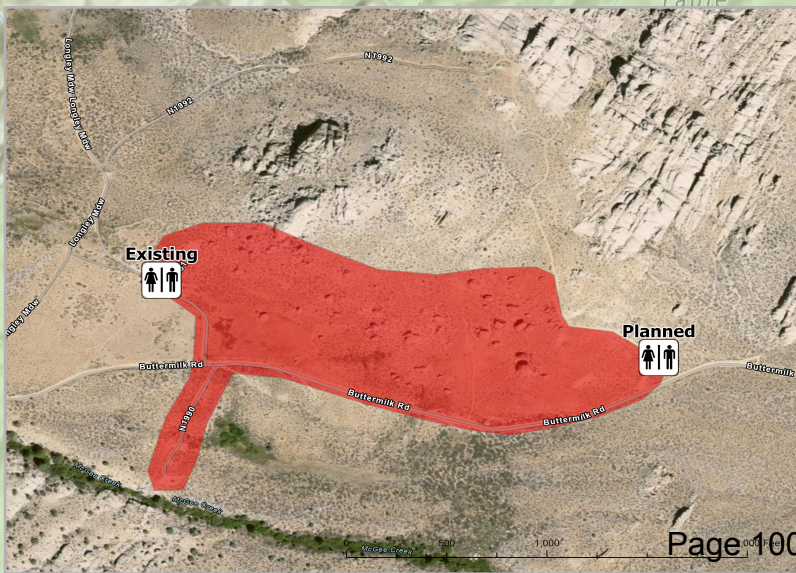
**5. Other (Optional):** Provide any further information important for the review of this proposal.



## Attachment A



## BIRPI Bouldering Area



### Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative (BIRPI)

- Campground
- Climbing Area
- Trailhead
- BIRPI Project Area
- LADWP
- BLM
- Inyo National Forest
- Relevant Watershed Units

Eastern Sierra  
Council of Governments  
08/02/2021





7/28/2021

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
90 New Montgomery St, Suite 1010  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Attn: Jim Bond, Senior Manager, California Forest Programs

RE: Letter of support for the **“Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative”**

Dear Jim Bond –

On behalf of Access Fund and Bishop Area Climbers Coalition, we are writing today to express support for the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) and their “Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative”, a funding application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation’s “2021 California Forests: Targeted Headwater Resilience Implementation and Monitoring” funding opportunity for “Headwaters Protection and Improvements on the Inyo National Forest.” The ESCOG’s application addresses two critical and long identified needs in the Eastern Sierra on the Inyo National Forest: recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk and conceptual recreation planning in the immediate subregion.

Recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk bouldering and climbing area have been pursued for a number of years by relevant public agencies along with partners from national and local advocacy organizations such as the Access Fund and the Bishop Climber’s Coalition. We have provided details on past toilet costs, and baseline trail survey data collected by Access Fund to ESCOG. We look forward to supporting and partnering with ESCOG in community outreach, providing volunteer hours and any other support they may need in this project. It should also be noted that this area receives general dispersed camping and OHV use making this a multi use area and project.

The ESCOG’s funding application seeks to specifically address the following infrastructure needs based on current and anticipated use: upgrades to existing onsite toilets; planning for future campground, parking, and sanitation needs; design and implementation of interpretive and wayfinding signage and kiosks; and the planning and implementation of an appropriate trail system to facilitate access to bouldering and climbing areas including the formalization and/or reprogramming of existing use trails. Enhancements to toilet infrastructure are supported by an existing Environmental Assessment conducted by the Inyo National Forest (“Buttermilk Toilet Construction Project / USDA Forest Service”).

## Attachment A

Recreation activities in the immediate subregion that surround the Buttermilk have seen sustained and steady growth in recent years, and the initiation of reliable regional air service into the Eastern Sierra via the Bishop Airport in the Fall of 2021 will add additional visitors and additional pressures onto existing recreation infrastructure and most certainly onto the natural resources and the critical watershed that supplies the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the citizens of Los Angeles. The unrelenting popularity of recreation activities in the subregion that surrounds the Buttermilk - Pine Creek, the Tungsten Hills, the Happy and Sad Boulders, etc. – and the natural resources that compel such enthusiastic visitation will benefit from the conceptual recreation planning effort proposed in the ESCOG funding application.

The ESCOG's partnership with the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP), and the Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative (SRTI), a California Proposition 68 effort funded by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, is defining a new era for collaboration and partnership in the Eastern Sierra. The "Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative" is also entirely consistent with the ESCOG's "Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program," and for these reasons and for the focused intent of the ESCOG's application that will address the critical needs of natural resources and sustainable recreation on the Inyo National Forest, we encourage the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to fund the ESCOG's application.

Sincerely,



Katie Goodwin- Access Fund, California Regional Director



Tai Devore- Bishop Area Climbers Coalition, President



Adventure Trail System of the Eastern Sierra  
3063 Mesquite Rd  
Bishop, Ca. 93514

July 29, 2021

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
90 New Montgomery St, Suite 1010  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Attn: Jim Bond, Senior Manager, California Forest Programs

RE: Letter of support for the **"Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative"**

Dear Jim Bond –

On behalf of Adventure Trail System of the Eastern Sierra, we are writing today to express support for the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) and their "Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative", a funding application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's "2021 California Forests: Targeted Headwater Resilience Implementation and Monitoring" funding opportunity for "Headwaters Protection and Improvements on the Inyo National Forest." The ESCOG's application addresses two critical and long identified needs in the Eastern Sierra on the Inyo National Forest: recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk and conceptual recreation planning in the immediate subregion.

Recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk bouldering and climbing area have been pursued for a number of years by relevant public agencies along with partners from national and local advocacy organizations such as the Access Fund and the Bishop Climber's Coalition. The ESCOG's funding application seeks to specifically address the following infrastructure needs based on current and anticipated use: upgrades to existing onsite toilets; planning for future campground, parking, and sanitation needs; design and implementation of interpretive and wayfinding signage and kiosks; and the planning and implementation of an appropriate trail system to facilitate access to bouldering and climbing areas including the formalization and/or reprogramming of existing use trails. Enhancements to toilet infrastructure are supported by an existing Environmental Assessment conducted by the Inyo National Forest ("Buttermilk Toilet Construction Project / USDA Forest Service").

## Attachment A

Recreation activities in the immediate subregion that surround the Buttermilk – which include a wide variety of user groups and which take place during all four seasons - have seen sustained and steady growth in recent years, and the initiation of reliable regional air service into the Eastern Sierra via the Bishop Airport in the Fall of 2021 will add additional visitors and additional pressures onto existing recreation infrastructure and most certainly onto the natural resources and the critical watershed that supplies the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the citizens of Los Angeles. The unrelenting popularity of the wide spectrum of recreation activities in the subregion that surrounds the Buttermilk - Pine Creek, the Tungsten Hills, the Happy and Sad Boulders, etc. – and the natural resources that compel such enthusiastic visitation will benefit from the conceptual recreation planning effort proposed in the ESCOG funding application.

The ESCOG's partnership with the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP), and the Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative (SRTI), a California Proposition 68 effort funded by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, is defining a new era for collaboration and partnership in the Eastern Sierra. The "Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative" is also entirely consistent with the ESCOG's "Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program," and for these reasons and for the focused intent of the ESCOG's application that will address the critical needs of natural resources and sustainable recreation on the Inyo National Forest, we encourage the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to fund the ESCOG's application.

Our hope is that this will improve the OHV experience to our locals and visitors.

Sincerely,



Randy Gillespie

President

Adventure Trail System of the Eastern Sierra (ATS)



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Bishop Field Office  
351 Pacu Lane, Suite 100  
Bishop, CA 93514  
[www.blm.gov/office/bishop-field-office](http://www.blm.gov/office/bishop-field-office)

August 4, 2021

8300 (P)  
CA170.303

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
90 New Montgomery St, Suite 1010  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Attn: Jim Bond, Senior Manager, California Forest Programs

RE: Letter of support for the “Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative”

Dear Mr. Bond,

On behalf of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Bishop Field Office, I am writing to express support for the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) and “Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative,” a funding application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation’s “2021 California Forests: Targeted Headwater Resilience Implementation and Monitoring” funding opportunity for “Headwaters Protection and Improvements on the Inyo National Forest.” The ESCOG’s application addresses two critical and long identified needs in the Eastern Sierra on the Inyo National Forest: Recreation Infrastructure Improvements in the Buttermilk and Conceptual Recreation Planning in the Immediate Subregion.

Recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk bouldering and climbing area have been pursued for years by relevant public agencies along with partners from national and local advocacy organizations such as the Access Fund and the Bishop Climber’s Coalition. The ESCOG’s funding application seeks to specifically address the following infrastructure needs based on current and anticipated use: upgrades to existing onsite toilets; planning for future campground, parking, and sanitation needs; design and implementation of interpretive and wayfinding signage and kiosks; and the planning and implementation of an appropriate trail system to facilitate access to bouldering and climbing areas including the formalization and/or reprogramming of existing use trails. Enhancements to toilet infrastructure are supported by an existing Environmental Assessment conducted by the Inyo National Forest (“Buttermilk Toilet Construction Project / USDA Forest Service”).

Recreation activities in the immediate subregion that surround the Buttermilk, which include a wide variety of user groups and which take place during all seasons, have seen sustained and steady growth in recent years. The initiation of reliable regional air service into the Eastern

## Attachment A

Sierra via the Bishop Airport in the Fall of 2021 is expected to further increase visitation and associated pressure on existing recreation infrastructure and the natural resources and values of area. Our collective ability to manage the wide spectrum of recreation activities that occur within and near the Buttermilk Country, such as Pine Creek, the Tungsten Hills, and the Happy and Sad Boulders, as well as our collective ability to conserve and protect the natural resources and values that provide the foundation current and expected visitation will clearly benefit from the recreation planning effort proposed in the ESCOG's funding application.

I strongly encourage the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to fund the ESCOG's application. The proposed project, and the power of the partnerships involved, will help us meet critical conservation challenges while providing sustainable recreation on the Inyo National Forest and adjacent public lands managed by the BLM.

Sincerely,

**STEVEN NELSON** Digitally signed by STEVEN NELSON  
Date: 2021.08.04 16:39:12 -07'00'

Steven Nelson  
Bishop Field Manager



July 19, 2021

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
90 New Montgomery St, Suite 1010  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Attn: Jim Bond, Senior Manager, California Forest Programs

RE: Letter of support for the **“Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative”**

Dear Jim Bond,

On behalf of Friends of the Inyo and our members, we are writing today to express support for the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) and their “Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative”. Friends of the Inyo is a 35 year old member based conservation organization based in Mono and Inyo Counties working to protect the public lands and wildlife of the Eastern Sierra. This grant application has been submitted under the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation’s “2021 California Forests: Targeted Headwater Resilience Implementation and Monitoring” funding opportunity for “Headwaters Protection and Improvements on the Inyo National Forest.” The ESCOG’s application addresses two critical and long identified needs in the Eastern Sierra on the Inyo National Forest: recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk and conceptual recreation planning in the immediate subregion.

Recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk bouldering and climbing area have been pursued for a number of years by relevant public agencies along with partners from national and local advocacy organizations such as Friends of the Inyo, the Access Fund and the Bishop Climber’s Coalition. The ESCOG’s funding application seeks to specifically address the following infrastructure needs based on current and anticipated use: upgrades to existing onsite toilets; planning for future campground, parking, and sanitation needs; design and implementation of interpretive and wayfinding signage and kiosks; and the planning and implementation of an appropriate trail system to facilitate access to bouldering and climbing areas including the formalization and/or reprogramming of existing use trails. Enhancements to toilet infrastructure are supported by an existing Environmental Assessment conducted by the Inyo National Forest (“Buttermilk Toilet Construction Project / USDA Forest Service”).

Recreation activities in the immediate subregion that surround the Buttermilk – which include a wide variety of user groups and which take place during all four seasons - have seen sustained and steady growth in recent years, and the initiation of reliable regional air service into the Eastern Sierra via the Bishop Airport in the Fall of 2021 will add additional visitors and



additional pressures onto existing recreation infrastructure and most certainly onto the natural resources and the critical watershed that supplies the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the citizens of Los Angeles. The unrelenting popularity of the wide spectrum of recreation activities in the subregion that surrounds the Buttermilk - Pine Creek, the Tungsten Hills, the Happy and Sad Boulders, etc. – and the natural resources that compel such enthusiastic visitation will benefit from the conceptual recreation planning effort proposed in the ESCOG funding application.

The ESCOG's partnership with the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP), and the Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative (SRTI), a California Proposition 68 effort funded by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, is defining a new era for collaboration and partnership in the Eastern Sierra. Because of our history and current partnerships with local governments and the Inyo National Forest on stewardship projects that result in meaningful improvements to INF lands, we understand first hand why this initiative will be successful and impactful. The "Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative" is also entirely consistent with the ESCOG's "Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program," and for these reasons and for the focused intent of the ESCOG's application that will address the critical needs of natural resources and sustainable recreation on the Inyo National Forest, we encourage the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to fund the ESCOG's application.

Sincerely,

Wendy Schneider

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wendy Schneider", written in a cursive style.

Executive Director



EL CAMINO SIERRA

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF INYO

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TELEPHONE (760) 878-0373

e-mail: dellis@inyocounty.us

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*Assistant Clerk of the Board*

August 2, 2021

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
Attn: Jim Bond, Senior Manager, California Forest Programs  
90 New Montgomery St, Suite 1010  
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Letter of support for the **“Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative”**

Dear Mr. Bond,

On behalf of the Inyo County Board of Supervisors, I am writing today to express support for the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) and their “Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative,” a funding application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation’s “2021 California Forests: Targeted Headwater Resilience Implementation and Monitoring” funding opportunity for “Headwaters Protection and Improvements on the Inyo National Forest.” The ESCOG’s application addresses two critical and long identified needs in the Eastern Sierra on the Inyo National Forest: recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk and conceptual recreation planning in the immediate subregion.

Recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk bouldering and climbing area have been pursued for a number of years by relevant public agencies along with partners from national and local advocacy organizations such as the Access Fund and the Bishop Climbers Coalition. The ESCOG’s funding application seeks to specifically address the following infrastructure needs based on current and anticipated use: upgrades to existing onsite toilets; planning for future campground, parking, and sanitation needs; design and implementation of interpretive and wayfinding signage and kiosks; and the planning and implementation of an appropriate trail system to facilitate access to bouldering and climbing areas including the formalization and/or reprogramming of existing use trails. Enhancements to toilet infrastructure are supported by an existing Environmental Assessment conducted by the Inyo National Forest (“Buttermilk Toilet Construction Project / USDA Forest Service”).

Recreation activities in the immediate subregion that surround the Buttermilk – which include a wide variety of user groups and which take place during all four seasons – have seen sustained and steady growth in recent years, and the initiation of reliable regional air service into the Eastern Sierra via the Bishop Airport in the fall of 2021 will add additional visitors and additional pressures onto existing recreation infrastructure and most certainly onto the natural resources and the critical watershed that supplies the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the citizens of Los Angeles. The unrelenting popularity of the wide spectrum of recreation activities in the subregion that surrounds the Buttermilk – Pine Creek, the Tungsten Hills, the Happy and Sad Boulders, etc. – and the natural resources that compel such enthusiastic visitation will benefit from the conceptual recreation planning effort proposed in the ESCOG funding application.

The ESCOG’s partnership with the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP), and the Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative (SRTI), a California Proposition 68 effort funded by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, is defining a new era for collaboration and partnership in the Eastern Sierra. The “Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative” is also entirely consistent with the ESCOG’s

## Attachment A

“Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program,” and for these reasons and for the focused intent of the ESCOG’s application that will address the critical needs of natural resources and sustainable recreation on the Inyo National Forest, we encourage the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to fund the ESCOG’s application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Griffiths", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jeff Griffiths, Chairperson  
Inyo County Board of Supervisors

August 2, 2021

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
90 New Montgomery St, Suite 1010  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Attn: Jim Bond, Senior Manager, California Forest Programs



RE: Letter of support for the **“Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative”**

Dear Jim Bond –

On behalf of the Plumas Corporation, we are writing today to express support for the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) and their “Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative”, a funding application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation’s “2021 California Forests: Targeted Headwater Resilience Implementation and Monitoring” funding opportunity for “Headwaters Protection and Improvements on the Inyo National Forest.” The ESCOG’s application addresses two critical and long identified needs in the Eastern Sierra on the Inyo National Forest: recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk and conceptual recreation planning in the immediate subregion to support improved water quality and natural resource protection.

Recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk bouldering and climbing area have been pursued for a number of years by relevant public agencies along with partners from national and local advocacy organizations such as the Access Fund and the Bishop Climber’s Coalition, as steadily increasing recreation visitation continues to pressure eastern Sierra natural resources. The ESCOG’s funding application seeks to specifically address the following infrastructure needs based on current and anticipated use: upgrades to existing onsite toilets; planning for future campground, parking, and sanitation needs; design and implementation of interpretive and wayfinding signage and kiosks; and the planning and implementation of an appropriate trail system to facilitate access to bouldering and climbing areas including the formalization and/or reprogramming of existing use trails. Enhancements to toilet infrastructure are supported by an existing Environmental Assessment conducted by the Inyo National Forest (“Buttermilk Toilet Construction Project / USDA Forest Service”).

Recreation activities in the immediate subregion that surround the Buttermilk – which include a wide variety of user groups and which take place during all four seasons - have seen sustained and steady growth in recent years, and the initiation of reliable regional air service into the Eastern Sierra via the Bishop Airport in the Fall of 2021 will add additional visitors and additional pressures onto existing recreation infrastructure and most certainly onto the natural resources and the critical watershed that supplies the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the citizens of Los Angeles. The unrelenting popularity of the wide spectrum of recreation activities in the subregion that surrounds the Buttermilk - Pine Creek, the Tungsten Hills, the Happy and Sad Boulders, etc. – and the natural resources that compel such

## Attachment A

enthusiastic visitation will benefit from the conceptual recreation planning effort proposed in the ESCOG funding application.

The ESCOG's partnership with the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP), and the Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative (SRTI), a California Proposition 68 effort funded by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, is defining a new era for collaboration and partnership in the Eastern Sierra. The "Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative" is also entirely consistent with the ESCOG's "Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program," and for these reasons and for the focused intent of the ESCOG's application that will address the critical needs of natural resources and sustainable recreation on the Inyo National Forest, we encourage the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to fund the ESCOG's application.

Sincerely,



Janet Hatfield  
Eastern Sierra Project Manager  
Plumas Corporation

## Attachment A



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Pacific  
Southwest  
Region

Inyo National Forest  
351 Pacu Lane, Suite 200  
Bishop, CA 93514  
(760) 873-2400 Voice  
(760) 873-2538 Text (TDD)

**File Code:** 2300

**Date:** July 28, 2021

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
90 New Montgomery St, Suite 1010  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Attn: Jim Bond, Senior Manager, California Forest Programs

RE: Letter of support for the “Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative”

Dear Mr. Bond:

On behalf of the Inyo National Forest, I am writing to express support for the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments’ (ESCOG) “Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative,” a funding application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation’s “2021 California Forests: Targeted Headwater Resilience Implementation and Monitoring” funding opportunity for “Headwaters Protection and Improvements on the Inyo National Forest.” The ESCOG’s application addresses two critical needs in the Eastern Sierra on the Inyo National Forest: recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilks area and recreation planning in the vicinity.

Recreation activities in the area surrounding the Buttermilks have seen sustained and steady growth in recent years. In addition to the Buttermilks, Pine Creek, the Tungsten Hills, and the Happy and Sad Boulders attract visitors year-round for bouldering, multi-pitch climbing, dispersed camping, mountain biking, hiking, and motorized recreation.

Recreation infrastructure improvements in the Buttermilk climbing area have been pursued for years by public agencies along with partners from national and local advocacy organizations such as the Access Fund and the Bishop Area Climbers Coalition. The ESCOG’s funding application seeks to address the following infrastructure needs based on current and anticipated use: installing a new toilet; planning for future camping, parking, and sanitation needs; design and implementation of interpretive and wayfinding signage and kiosks; and the planning and implementation of an appropriate trail system to facilitate access to climbing areas. Enhancements to toilet infrastructure have been analyzed in an Environmental Assessment conducted by the Inyo National Forest (“Buttermilk Toilet Construction Project / USDA Forest Service”).

The ESCOG’s partnership with the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP), and the Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative (SRTI), a California Proposition 68 effort funded by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, is defining a new era for collaboration and partnership in the Eastern Sierra. The “Buttermilk Infrastructure and Recreation Planning Initiative” would help our partnership make tangible improvements to resource protection and recreation management in the Eastern Sierra. For these reasons, the Inyo National Forest



## Attachment A

supports this application and encourages the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to fund the ESCOG's proposal.

For additional information, please contact Adam Barnett, Public Services Staff Officer, at [adam.barnett@usda.gov](mailto:adam.barnett@usda.gov) or 760-920-8104.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

ADAM  
BARNETT

Digitally signed by ADAM  
BARNETT  
Date: 2021.07.28  
17:03:44 -0700

Acting for LESLEY YEN  
Forest Supervisor



### Statement of Litigation

**Instructions:** Save this document on your computer and complete. The final narrative should not exceed two (2) pages; do not delete the text provided below. Once complete, upload this document into the on-line application as instructed.

**Litigation:** In the space provided below, state any litigation (including bankruptcies) involving your organization and either a federal, state, or local government agency as parties. This includes anticipated litigation, pending litigation, or litigation completed within the past twelve months. Federal, state, and local government applicants are not required to complete this section. If your organization is not involved in any litigation, please state below.

July 27, 2021

To Whom it May Concern:

The Eastern Sierra Council of Governments ("ESCOG") is not currently involved in any litigation (including bankruptcies) that involves ESCOG and either a federal, state, or local government agency as parties. This statement includes anticipated litigation, pending litigation, and litigation completed within the past twelve months.

If you have any further questions, I may be reached at:

Office of the Inyo County Counsel  
PO Box M  
Independence, CA 93526  
[gchuchla@inyocounty.us](mailto:gchuchla@inyocounty.us)  
760-878-0229

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Grace Chuchla".

Grace Chuchla  
Counsel for ESCOG



**EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**Joint Powers Authority**

July 29, 2021

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
90 New Montgomery St, Suite 1010  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Attn: Jim Bond, Senior Manager, California Forest Programs

RE: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) Board of Directors

Dear Mr. Bonds,

The table below provides the credentials of the ESCOG Board of Directors:

**ESCOG Board Members**

City of Bishop Councilmember Karen Schwartz – Chair	Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember John Wentworth – Vice Chair
Mono County Supervisor Stacy Corless	Inyo County Supervisor Jeff Griffiths
Mono County Supervisor Bob Gardner	Inyo County Supervisor Dan Totheroh
Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember Lynda Salcido	City of Bishop Councilmember Jim Ellis

Please feel contact me with any questions at [ekabala@escog.ca.gov](mailto:ekabala@escog.ca.gov)

Thank you,

  
Elaine Kabala  
Executive Director, ESCOG

**APPLICANT CONTROLS AND CAPABILITIES QUESTIONNAIRE**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** THIS QUESTIONNAIRE IS REQUIRED WITH THE SUBMISSION OF A NFWF FULL PROPOSAL, FOR THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATION TYPES: NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, STATE, LOCAL & MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS, INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS, FOR-PROFIT ENTITIES, AND INCORPORATED INDIVIDUALS. PLEASE COMPLETE AND SIGN THE QUESTIONNAIRE IF YOUR ORGANIZATION DOES NOT HAVE A RECENT (WITHIN TWO YEARS) SINGLE AUDIT UPLOADED TO THE FEDERAL AUDIT CLEARINGHOUSE. DO NOT INCLUDE COPIES OF POLICIES OR PROCEDURES WITH THE SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM.

NFWF UTILIZES THIS QUESTIONNAIRE ALONG WITH A RISK ASSESSMENT TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY AND COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS, WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING: ADDITIONAL REPORTING, RESTRICTION OF ADVANCE FUNDING, AND/OR SUBMISSION OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION.

**ORGANIZATION LEGAL NAME** Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)  
**ORGANIZATION EIN** 87-1552126

1. Does your organization have a Single Audit (within the last 2 years) on file with the Federal Audit Clearinghouse?

☐ If yes, sign and upload form.

☒ If no, complete form in its entirety.

The ESCOG does not expend more than \$750,000 per year in federal funding is not required to prepare a Single Audit.

2. Has your organization been suspended or debarred from any government contracting process? If yes, please explain.

No.

3. Has your organization managed a federal award before? If yes, provide a summary of your most recent award, including period of performance, awarding agency, federal program, and size of award.

The ESCOG organization was established in January 2020 and has not received or managed a federal award before; however, as described below, the ESCOG contracts administrative services, legal services, and financial services from its member agencies, which have prior experience with federal funding.

4. Does your organization maintain written accounting policies and procedures applicable to headquarters and, if applicable, field offices? If no, please explain.

Yes.

5. Does your accounting system (or other management system) allow organizational expenses to be tracked: (a) to a specific project on which your organization is working; (b) to specific tasks within that project; and, (c) to specific cost-type categories within each task (e.g., materials, supplies, travel, etc.)? If no, please explain.

Yes, grant funded projects will be tracked by task and specific cost-types.

6. Does your organization have a timekeeping system or documented process that allows staff time to be tracked: (a) to a particular project on which staff spends time; and, (b) to specific tasks within each project? If no, please explain.

No. ESCOG currently has no employees. Services are provided to ESCOG by independent contractors and/or contracts with member agencies. For the purposes of grant administration, staff time spent on grant administration, or provided by subconsultants will be tracked by project and to specific tasks.

7. Does your organization maintain employment agreements or other formal evidence of employment between it and its employees? If no, please explain.

No. ESCOG currently has no employees. Services are provided to ESCOG by independent contractors and/or contracts with member agencies. This includes contracts for the following services: executive director, administrator / board clerk, legal, and fiscal / treasurer.

8. Does your organization maintain basic property and casualty insurance? If no, please explain.  
Yes.

9. Is your organization able to perform the project on a cost-reimbursable basis? If no, please explain by providing the following information: (a) current cash on hand amount, (b) advance funding required, and (c) purpose of advance funding.

Advanced funding needs will be contingent on project schedule, anticipated budget, NFWF invoicing requirements, and opportunities with regional partners and agencies such as LA DWP, US Forest Service, and other regional agencies to assist with cash flow needs. Language in the ESCOG's "Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program" - the ESCOG's policy resolution that supports this grant application - allows the ESCOG to potentially take on debt "...secured by the Program's identified revenue" which in this case would be awarded funds from this grant application.

10. Does your organization maintain a written policy on conflict of interest? Would your organization's policy on conflict of interest operate to notify NFWF if your organization finds that it is unable to satisfactorily manage a conflict of interest pertinent to a NFWF-funded project? If no, please explain.

As a public entity, ESCOG Board members, contractors, and employees are subject to various laws, regulations, and policies to prevent conflicts of interest and ensure transparency. This includes the Ralph M. Brown Act, the Political Reform Act of 1974, Government Code § 1090, et seq., regulations promulgated by the California Fair Political Practices Commission, and ESCOG's own conflict of interest policy.

11. Does your organization maintain a written procurement policy? If no, please explain.  
Yes.

**APPLICANT CONTROLS AND CAPABILITIES QUESTIONNAIRE**



12. If your proposed project includes contracts and/or sub-recipients, has an appropriate legal/contracting officer at your organization reviewed such elements and confirmed that your organization indeed has the ability to implement the arrangements as envisioned?  
Yes.
13. Does your organization maintain written policies for property management and do you perform inventory audits/verifications on a regular basis? [APPLICABLE TO PROJECTS WITH EQUIPMENT OR SUPPLIES BUDGETED]  
The ESCOG does not maintain property. The proposed project will not include purchase of equipment or supplies under ESCOG management. Equipment or supplies needed for project implementation will be provided by subcontractors and maintained by the U.S. Forest Service. The ESCOG does no perform inventory audits, and does not foresee that it would be necessary for the proposed project.
14. In the past three (3) years has your organization, or any unit or office thereof, been audited by an external donor/funder or agent thereof? (This would include, but not be limited to, audits of your organization by governmental entities.) If yes, please list all such audits.  
No.

I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the above information is true, complete, and accurate and that I am authorized to submit on behalf of the organization represented above.

**SIGNATURE**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Elaine Kabala", is written over a horizontal line.

**NAME AND TITLE**

ELAINE KABALA  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1. The following information is provided for the purpose of the audit:

# Attachment A

## EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Income Statement (with budget to actual)

For the Year-to-date Activity and Twelve months (projected) ended June 4 and June 30, 2021

**UNAUDITED**

	<i>Year-to-date Activity ended June 4, 2021</i>			Projected thru June 30, 2021	Proposed Budget FY 21-22
	Budget	Actual	Favorable (Negative) Variance		
<b>Revenues</b>					
Interest	\$ -	\$ 485	\$ 485	\$ 847	\$ -
Member contributions					
Bishop	5,000	5,000	-	5,000	31,250
Mammoth Lakes	10,000	10,000	-	10,000	31,250
Inyo	10,000	10,000	-	10,000	31,250
Mono	10,000	10,000	-	10,000	31,250
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>35,485</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>35,847</b>	<b>125,000</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>					
Executive Director	25,000	1,860	23,140	20,803	50,000
Clerk (includes FY 19/20 amount)	20,000	14,994	5,006	20,000	20,000
Legal	10,000	6,664	3,336	10,000	10,000
Fiscal	5,000	4,992	8	4,992	5,000
Insurance	10,000	1,961	8,039	1,961	2,100
Miscellaneous	5,000	320	4,680	1,000	2,500
Grant writer contract					30,000
Contingency (reserve)	1,000	-	1,000	-	5,400
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>76,000</b>	<b>30,791</b>	<b>45,209</b>	<b>58,756</b>	<b>125,000</b>
<b>Total Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	<b>(41,000)</b>	<b>4,694</b>	<b>\$ 45,694</b>	<b>(22,909)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Fund Balance, Beginning</b>	<b>41,000</b>	<b>22,909</b>		<b>22,909</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Fund Balance, Ending</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 27,603</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>